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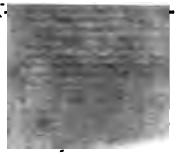

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THE

PREFACE.

THERE hardly needs Argument to prove, that new Diſcoveries in Huſbandry have increaſed the Riches of this Nation, more within theſe forty Years laſt paſt, than in Centuries before; the Improvement of many Thouſands of barren Lands witneſſes it: What Quantities of them have been gain'd from the Sea? What Numbers of Acres have been amended by ſubterranean Cuts, to drain off Waters? And what innumerable Parcels of poor, ſteril Earths, have been fertilized by new-invented Drill-Plows, Horſebreaks, Manures, and other Managements? Whereby there have been obtained, with the Bleſſing of Heaven, ſuch plentiful Crops of Grain, and artificial Graſſes, &c. that our Foreſathers were Strangers to the Enjoyment of: By which we have been enabled, not only to ſupply our own Nation with Fulneſs of Proviſions, but alſo to ſupport foreign ones, by the Sale of our Grain and other Commodities. And for an Addition of more new and valuable Diſcoveries, I have here ſent into the World a compleat Syſtem of experienced Improvements, made on the moſt ſerviceable Quadrupede in the Univerſe; I ſay, moſt ſerviceable, becauſe, in the firſt Place, the Profit of moſt Farms, throughout this Nation, depends on keeping and improving Sheep and Lambs, that are maintain'd ſo cheap, as to live, for the moſt Part, by ranging of Fields and Commons, which ſupply them with that Proviſion which is leaſt beneficial to us. It is theſe excellent Creatures that bring us Lambs

in abundance; and, content to be arrayed in Winter, they reſign to us the Uſe of their profitable Fleeces in Summer, in ſuch a Quality, that if they come off ſound Bodies, no Nation whatever can produce a Wool that can vie with it, for its many Services in Manufacture. It is Sheep that return every Evening to pay for their cheap Keeping, by being confined in a Fold, to dreſs our Land with their Dung and Stale, a Dreſſing that is ſo agreeable to it, that were it not for them, there would not be half the Grain that yearly is. The Fleſh of Sheep and Lambs is ſo excellently good, that a continual Uſe of it doth hardly ever make it the leſs pleaſant in eating; ſo that, for certain, it may be ſaid of it, if the Fleſh of this Beaſt were as ſcarce as that of Fawn, or other Veniſon, it would be the only Veniſon in Requeſt, before all other in the World. How dainty a Repaſt is a Quarter of Houſe-Lamb, when ſuckled by Ewes on a ſweet Field-Meat, and the Lamb improved at home, the while, on a ſweet Trough-Meat, according to a new and better Way than ever was yet publiſhed! Sheep and Lambs, before any Cattle, ſell the readieſt; and are every Week offer'd to Sale in one Market or other, throughout the Year. But ſo has our Caſe been in ſome wet Years, that moſt of our Sheep have rotted, by their feeding in Vales, and on other ſwampy Lands, their Mutton rendered unwholſome, and their Wool ſo weak, that it could not be made into Cloth without the Help of that from ſound-bodied Sheep, to the very great Damage of our Woollen Manufacture in general, and the Ruin of many Farmers; ſome of whom I have known to have loſt two Flocks in one Year, by that fatal Malady, the Rot. Wherefore, as our Wool is that ſtaple Commodity on which depends the greateſt Part of our Trade, and by which moſt of our Poor are maintain'd throughout this Nation; how highly does it concern every one to contribute, what in him lies, towards the Improvement of it? And what can tend more to it, than to ſecure, in all Weathers, theſe moſt ſerviceable Creatures, Sheep, from dying by the Rot, or other Diſeaſe? Yet, as important a Matter as this is, no Author whatſoever, has hitherto publiſhed one, or more Remedies, that will infallibly prevent it, in ſo cheap, and in ſo ready a Manner, as to encourage Farmers, and others, to attempt the Prevention of the Rot, as believing no ſuch Thing can be performed by Medicine. This is their declared Sentiment, if a Perſon ſays to them----I can prevent any Sheep rotting, though it feeds all the while on the worſt of ſwampy Ground, provided they can but feed, and lie tolerably dry.---But let any Perſon try my Remedies, here freely and genuinely offered him, and he will

aſſuredly find, and be convinced by Experience, that no Sheep can die of thoſe common, fatal Maladies, the White, or Red-Water, or Rot, if they are given to the Beaſt in due Time; for that their Ingredients are of ſuch a cleanſing, healing Nature, that their Liquor would well pay for its little Coſt and Trouble, if given to Sheep even in their beſt Health, becauſe it will create in them a keen Appetite, make their Meat do them the greater Service, and keep them well while they are ſo; and this, I ſay, for a very ſmall Expence, at the Shepherd's Trouble; for, as the Ingredients are very cheap, the pooreſt Farmer muſt be induced to make uſe of them: And thus there needs not be a rotten Sheep or Lamb in our Nation; but for Want of ſuch Remedies, if a ſecond Rot ſhould ſucceed a firſt the ſame Year, or in the next Year following, as is poſſible, it may not only ruin the Woollen Manufacture, and other Trades that depend on what comes from Sheep for ſome Time, but it may alſo be a great Means of bringing on a Famine in our Nation, becauſe moſt of the Land in England *is of the Vale, or ſwampy Sort, and cannot be dreſſed without the Folding of Sheep; and if not dreſſed, how can we have ſufficient Crops of Corn? What Value then muſt ſuch Diſcoveries be of, that will effectually prevent theſe Misfortunes? And as this Caſe is of very great Importance, not only to Thouſands of private Perſons, but alſo to the Nation in general, I have here inſerted ſome Receipts from ancient Authors, as may, perhaps, aſſiſt in the Improvement of Sheep and Lambs; and alſo ſhew my Readers the Difference between theirs, and my newer and better Remedies. I have here alſo given an Account of the neceſſary Qualifications that a good Shepherd ſhould be endowed with; for as this, and a good Plowman, are the moſt neceſſary Servants in a Farm, it highly concerns the Gentleman, or Farmer, to have a Shepherd capable and willingly diligent to do his Duty. But as ſuch a Shepherd cannot manage a Flock of Sheep, without the Aſſiſtance of a good Dog, I have laid down thoſe plain Rules for breaking one, that he may be made to be of the greateſt Service for rightly diſciplining a Flock; and when once a Dog is well broke, he generally remains a zealous and faithful one afterwards, in accompliſhing the Service preſcribed him. In a Word, we receive from ſuch a well-broken Dog (as a certain Author well obſerves) an hundred Conveniencies, we cannot have from thoſe Beaſts who fly from Man, while this renders himſelf agreeable by his Sprightlineſs, valuable by his Aſſiduity, and ſometimes beneficial by a ſeaſonable Intimation given to his Maſter, in his Slumbers, amongſt Thieves and Beaſts*

of

of Prey, and therefore he is worthy of new Returns of Gratitude. This great Work, as well as ſeveral others already publiſhed, I could never have performed, had it not been for an expenſive Travelling about England, *part of ſeveral Years together, whereby I have acquired that Knowledge, which my own Farm, or the whole County of* Hertford, *could not furniſh me with: But as Almighty God (Thanks be to him for ever) has ſhewn his Power in my Weakneſs, I hope, that theſe my Labours will infinitely promote the Welfare of my Fellow Creatures, and the Intereſt in general of* Great Britain *and* Ireland.

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ADVER-

ADVERTISEMENT.

WILLIAM ELLIS, the Author hereof, gives Notice to all Gentlemen and others, that he is ready to furniſh to any Perſon, on a proper Order, 1. The light, and moſt excellent four-wheel, Drill-Plow, that carries on it two Hoppers, one of a Peck Size, the other of a Buſhel Size; the firſt for ſowing Wheat or Barley, Peaſe, or Turnip, or Rape, or Lucerne Seed; and the latter for ſowing a Manure on the Seed; as ſoon as it is in the Drill; both which are covered, either by a very little Harrow, with ſix Teeth, or with a very little Inſtrument called a Gatherer, according as the Seed is that is ſown, fix'd to the Tail of the Drill-Plow, and drawn along with it, all by only one Horſe, as it is now in Uſe by this Author; and thus it ſows, and finiſhes the ſowing of two Acres of Land in one Day. 2. He alſo furniſhes a four-wheel, light, Drill-Plow, that ſows two Drills at once; and a Horſebreak that cleans two Intervals of Ground at once. 3. He ſells the light, little Foot-Plow, the Sale of which, in common, was formerly protected by a Patent. 4. The Turnwreſt-Plow, which is a neceſſary one to prepare Ground for uſing the four-wheel Drill-Plow. 5. The Drain-Plow. 6. The Anthill-Plow, or any other Plow. 7. He ſells the famous Dame Wheat-Seed, which carries a ſmooth, large Ear, like the *Lammas* Sort, is a very great Yielder; firſt ſown by this Author in 1746, but now he has it growing in ſeveral of his incloſed Fields, as it excellently well agrees with all Manner of loamy Soils, either in Vale or Chiltern Countries. 8. He alſo ſells the matchleſs Lady-Finger Graſs-Seeds, and two other Sorts of natural Graſs-Seeds, for converting Plow'd Land into the very beſt of Meadow or Paſture. 9. He likewiſe ſells Receipts to make two different Sorts of Compoſts or Manures, that infallibly improve all

Sorts

Sorts of Field or Garden-Crops, in the higheſt Degree of Perfection, and which certainly prevents the Slug, the Snail, the Worm, the Turnip-Fly, and the Butterfly or Caterpillar, damaging any Sort of Vegetable, in Field or Garden, for a ſmall Expence. 10. He ſells a Receipt to kill Ruſhes or Twitch-Graſs, and that will cauſe a fine Graſs to come up the ſame Year in their Room. 11. Another for keeping all Manner of Field Fowls from hurting new-ſown Corn, if it lies in a Field ten Miles off a Houſe, by a cheap and durable Machine. 12. How to improve old, decayed, Meadow, or Paſture Ground, and kill Moſs in one Seaſon, by Receipts never yet printed. 13. He ſells a Receipt to kill the black or *Norway* Rat, or to make them forſake a Houſe or Barn. 14. He ſells the black Kerroon Cherry-Tree, the Orange Pear-Tree, and the Parſnip-Apple; three Sorts, that no Gentleman or Farmer ſhould be without, for Reaſons aſſigned in his *Modern Huſbandman*; and theſe for one Shilling a-piece, at his Houſe. 15. He helps Gentlemen to any Sort of Servants. 16. He is ready to wait on any Gentleman in any Part of *England* or *Wales*, that thinks fit to conſult his Advice in the Improvement of his Eſtate, according to the ancient, or the neweſt Methods of Huſbandry; and anſwers all Letters, provided Poſtage is paid to his Houſe, that ſtands at thirty Miles Diſtance from *London*.

The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN'S, *the* PLOW-FARMER'S, *the* GRASIER'S, *and* SHEPHERD'S *Sure Guide*, &c.

CHAP. I.

Of SHEPHERDS *and their* DOGS.

The Character of a lame Shepherd, *and a* lazy Dog.

A LAME Shepherd, and a lazy Dog, are accounted the beſt Attendants on a Flock of Sheep, becauſe theſe neceſſarily drive them leiſurely, give the Sheep their due time of Feeding, where they meet with the beſt Living, and free of the Danger of Surfeiting, by being forced out of their natural Walk. For theſe Creatures, as they are ſubject to many Diſeaſes, when their Bodies are loaded with large Fleeces of Wool, and driven hard, in hot Weather eſpecially, are very liable to have their Blood and Liver corrupted, the Scab bred over their whole Body, or brought under the Redwater or Rot, or other fatal Diſeaſes: And ſo one ſcabby Sheep (according to the old Proverb) may ſpoil a whole Flock. His Dog alſo, if he is one of too much Courage, will be apt to bark when he ſhould not; run too faſt, and beyond his Bounds; ſcare and hare the Flock into deſtructive Heats; and will not eaſily and readily go and return at the Word of Command: When a lazy Dog will keep near his Maſter's Heels, when he is not bid to do otherwiſe; will

bark, and go at the Word of Command; will keep his due Bounds, and return at his Maſter's Call. It is for this, and other Reaſons, that ſome Shepherds prefer the ſhock Dog, as being one of the heavier Sort, and beſt able by his ſhaggy Coat, to endure the Severity of cold Winds and Froſts. A lame Shepherd, by means of his Lameneſs, is alſo reſtrain'd from purſuing and venting his Paſſion on his Sheep; for, it is certain, that ſome of the untoward Sort will now and then ſtray where they ſhould not; and then, and too often it is done, that a paſſionate nimble Shepherd will run with his Dog, and ſo worry the Stragglers as to bring on them the Cauſe of an untimely Death. Again, as a lame Shepherd, and his lazy Dog, both poſſeſs the moſt leiſure Qualities, they both become the ſafeſt Drivers, in a chiltern incloſed Country, of a Flock of Sheep: For as moſt chiltern Countries have hard-bottom Ground, and is in many Places very ſtony, and hilly withal; if the Sheep are drove too faſt here, eſpecially againſt the Aſcent of Hills, a whole Flock may be ſoon ruin'd. It is the Caſe ſometimes of me and my Neighbours, to have our Flocks drove every Morning, part of the Summer, to *Barkhamſtead* large Common; the neareſt Part of which lies from our fartheſt Farmers a Mile and Half: So that his Flock walks every Day three or four Miles before they are folded. Now, if ſuch a Flock is driven too hard, they would be ſoon drove off their Stomach, their Feet made ſore, and their Bodies infected with dangerous Diſtempers. This made a very ancient Author write thus in his old Stile.—" The Shepherd, ſays " he, ſhall order and govern his Flock with great Gentleneſs, " as is moſt requiſite for all Herds, of whatſoever Cattle " that it be, who muſt rather be, and ſhew themſelves " Leaders and Guides of their Beaſts, than Lords. Guid- " ing them to the Field, he muſt always go before them to " hinder and keep them back from running into Fields " where they might feed upon evil and hurtful Graſs; and " eſpecially ſuch Grounds as wherein the Water uſeth to " ſtand, or where the Ground hath been overwaſh'd with " ſome Flood, and breaking forth of ſome River; becauſe " that by paſturing in ſuch Places, they could not chuſe " but, in leſs than forty Days, be tainted and die, ex- " cept they were relieved and ſuccoured by ſome good " Means. He ſhall (ſays he) rather keep a white Dog, " than one of any other Colour, to follow his Sheep; and " he himſelf muſt alſo be apparell'd in White; becauſe

" that

" that Sheep are naturally ſo inclin'd to Fear, as that and " if they ſee but a Beaſt of any other Colour, they doubt " preſently, that it is the Wolf which cometh to devour " them. This Dog muſt have a Collar of Iron about his " Neck, beſet with good ſharp Points of Nails, to the " End that he may the more chearfully fight with the " Wolf. And if it happen that his Sheep be ſcattered, to " call them in, and bring them together again; whether " it be for keeping them out of Harm, or to cauſe them " to know his Call; he muſt whoop and whiſtle after them, " threatning them with his Sheep Crook, or elſe ſetting " his Dog after them. But he may not caſt any thing at them, " neither may he go farther from them, neither yet take " himſelf Leave to lie or ſit down. He muſt accuſtom him- " ſelf to two Sorts of Cries, the one pleaſant and ſhrill, to " make them go forward, but to call them back, to another " and diverſe Crie; to the End that the Sheep hearing theſe " two different Cries, may learn and apply themſelves to " do that which thereby is commanded them. If he walk " not, yet he muſt ſtand, to the End that he may be a " vigilant Watch unto his Cattle: And he muſt not ſuffer " the Slower, or thoſe which are with Lamb, to ſtraggle " from the reſt, or come far behind them, by hanging " back; when the Light-footed, and ſuch as have already " Lamb'd, do run before, leſt that ſome devouring Beaſt " come upon them. He muſt ſometimes make them merry, " chearing them up with Songs, or elſe by his Whiſtle and " Pipe; for the Sheep at the hearing thereof will feed " the more hungerly, they will not ſtraggle ſo far A- " broad, but they will love him the better."—Hence it is (I ſuppoſe) that ſome Shepherds divert themſelves with Dancing, and playing on the Taber and Pipe, as ſome do at this Time in *England*, as they did in *France* when this *French* Author wrote.—In *Hertfordſhire* we ſay a louſy Plowman and a lame Shepherd are beſt of their Sort, becauſe by the Plowman's ſcrubbing, he riggles the Plow, and thereby makes it go the eaſier after the Horſe; a lame Shepherd, becauſe he cannot follow the Sheep ſo faſt as to ſurfeit them and breed the Scab.

The Character of a nimble Shepherd and his nimble Dog. —As I have before wrote in Praiſe of a lame Shepherd and his lazy Dog, in the driving and managing of a Flock of Sheep in a chiltern incloſed Country, where Hedges make their Driving eaſy and ſafe, I now come to do the ſame in

Behalf of a nimble Shepherd and his nimble Dog, in an open champaign Country that lies in common Fields. Here, in my humble Opinion, a lame Shepherd and his lazy Dog, cannot be of that Service as a nimble Shepherd and his Dog can: And this, becauſe, in an open Country, moſt of their Acre and Half-acre Ridge Lands, that are always plow'd one Way, lie in many Places intermixt one Man's with another's; and in moſt Parts have only a narrow Cart Way between their growing Crops of Corn. Now, as many thouſands of Acres lie in narrow Roads, Lanes, Head-Lands, *&c.* in ſuch open Countries that are not above a Pole, or a Pole and Half wide; and which ſerve as common Graſs Ground to feed the neighbouring Flocks of Sheep on; a Shepherd and his Dog had need be here of the nimble Sort, to feed them in Safety, free of their biting, and getting among the green Corn that thus grows on each ſide of them; elſe Pounding and Reſtitution of Damage muſt be the Recompence: For which Purpoſe, vigilant Howards are in many Parts and Vales, and other open Countries, appointed to watch, and take the Advantage of ſuch Breaches. So that a Farmer may be preſently brought under a conſiderable Damage, if he has not a nimble careful Shepherd, and a Dog of the right Sort; for if they both had more Legs than they have, they would be ſometimes wanted, to run and prevent Sheeps ſtraying and doing Miſchief. The ſame, in Caſe the Shepherd has an untoward Dog that will not do as he is bid, or bites the Ear of a Sheep too hard, or too long, and in a wrong Part; it requires the Speed of his Maſter to take him timely off. But how does this agree with the Condition of a lame Shepherd and a lazy Dog? In our Part of *Hertfordſhire* we have a Notion that the Weſt Country Shepherd, and the *Bedfordſhire* Shepherd, are the two beſt ſort in *England*; for that, in the Weſt, they make it the greateſt Part of their Buſineſs to breed Sheep, not only for themſelves, but alſo for other Countries, on their dry open Field and downy Lands, and therefore keep the largeſt of Flocks, that require the beſt of Shepherds to look after them. So in *Bedfordſhire*, that Part eſpecially, which lies about *Dunſtable*, *Tuddington*, &c. where their Land is chiefly of the whitiſh loamy Sort, in open champaign Fields, both Shepherd and Dog had need enjoy their Limbs in the greateſt Perfection; becauſe here they are obliged to ſow many of their fallow half and whole acre Lands, and other Pieces, with Trefoil and Raygraſs (for this Ground won't bear Clover

well) between other Mens Pieces of Land, ſown with Wheat, Barley, Oats, Peaſe, *&c.* which obliges a Shepherd to be both a careful and a nimble one, and his Dog to be endowed with the ſame Qualities; for being capable of feeding his Sheep in ſuch artificial Graſs, to almoſt an Inch of Ground, clear of damaging other Mens Ground that grows on both ſides it.

The Qualifications of a good Shepherd, whether he be a Servant in an open field Country, or in an incloſed Country—Is one that will attend his Flock early and late, and will drive them leiſurely, will chuſe the beſt Spots of Ground for feeding his Flock on; for there are ſome Places, even in the Space of a Mile, that will rot Sheep, when others will not; and this in a hilly chiltern Country. So in Vales there are thouſands of Places that will rot Sheep, if a Shepherd is not very careful to avoid them when it is in his Power, as I ſhall, by Inſtances, make appear in the Sequel of theſe my Writings. A good Shepherd, with the Help of a well-taught Dog, will prevent his Flock breaking into Ground where they may do Damage: For, as in the open Fields there is little other Living for their largeſt Flocks during moſt of the Summer Seaſon, than what Graſs they can pick up, as I ſaid, on Butts or Head-lands, Roads and Lanes, that lie contiguous to Corn Lands; ſo in chiltern incloſed Countries, whole Flocks are feeding on Turnips, Clover, or Rapes, if a Shepherd is not vigilantly careful, he may loſe part of, or a whole Flock of Sheep in leſs than an Hour's time. A good Shepherd ſhould not only be endowed with theſe Qualifications, but alſo thoſe that nearer relate to the Life and Death of Sheep and Lambs. For Example, he ſhould be a Judge, when a Sheep is taken ill, of the Nature of its Diſtemper; and when he has diſcovered it, how to apply a proper Remedy for its Recovery. A good Shepherd will keep his Sheep from going among Buſhes and Briars, and breaking through Hedges, to the Loſs of their Wools, and the caſting their Lambs. He will, in what in him lies, prevent his Rams and Weathers fighting to their Damage; he will fold them in due Seaſons; he will not keep them too long on one Spot of Ground; he will tag his Sheep at the beginning of their Want; in Lambing-time he will watch, if Occaſion be, by Night and by Day, for aſſiſting the Ewes, and ſuccouring their Lambs in hard Weather.

The Infirmities of aged Shepherds. — A SHEPHERD when old, is commonly a decrepid Man, becauſe in Winter he is obliged to ſtand the Storms of Snows, Hail, Rain, and Winds; and in Summer he often lies on the Ground, and ſometimes ſleeps, which gives the damp Ground an Opportunity to throw Cold into his Body, and draw out his Heat; by which he is ſubject to Fevers, Rheumatiſms, *&c.*

A Shepherd Highwayman.—AT the Aſſizes at *Hertford*, in *March*, 1746, a Shepherd having folded his Sheep, embraced the Devil's Temptation; which was, That if he would try, he might get a good deal of Money, by robbing now and then on the High-way. And going into a Wood to cut a Club, found a Hedge-ſtake ready cut to his Hand: With this he went to the Road, and ſtopt one Man that he took Five Pounds from, and from another two Shillings; when he was apprehended and taken, tried, and condemned.

The Value of a Shepherd's good Dog.—A WELL-qualified Dog is juſtly eſteemed ſo neceſſary an Aſſiſtant to a Shepherd, that were two or three Men to ſupply his Place, in ſome Situations of Ground, they could not be ſo ſerviceable a Guard to a large Flock of Sheep, as ſuch a Dog. Therefore a true broke Dog has been valued at a Guinea, two, three, or more. This makes it a common Practice amongſt Shepherds to ſwop, ſell, or buy Dogs; in hopes that by ſuch ſwopping, ſelling, or buying, each one may come by a better Dog than he had before. And I am informed that ſuch and ſuch Dogs, are now and then brought to a certain ſtated Place, within thirty Miles of *London*, by way of a Market, purely for this trafficking Conveniency. And as a good Dog is a very valuable Servant, there are few Maſters that grudge a Shepherd's Dog his Maintenance, tho' it is not made an Article at the Shepherd's Hiring.

The Character of a certain Shepherd's good Dog in the Vale of Aileſbury.—ONE *Enoch Godſman*, by Name, an oldiſh Shepherd, had a Dog of the largeſt Size, for the Shepherd's Uſe; lightſome, and yet ſtrong made, between rough and ſmooth Hair'd, and of a fallow Colour. This Dog would walk on one ſide of a Flock of Sheep, while his Maſter was on the other: And though they grazed in a narrow Lane, or in a Bye Road, or between Lands where green Corn was growing; yet if a Sheep bit it, he would lug him by the Ear; and being uſed to be thus curb'd, they dare not do it: For if a Sheep had a Mind to make

ſuch

ſuch an Attempt, it looks firſt; for it's afraid of the Dog as a Child is of the Rod. And in Caſe a Sheep ſtraggles on the Maſter's Side, if he can't bring it back to the Flock, the Dog will break through them, quickly come to his Aſſiſtance, and ſoon return the Deſerter, and yet the Flock dare not go from their Place. This Dog was ſo well broke that he would go before a Flock, round it, ſide it, or keep behind it, and this nearer or farther off, at the Word of Command. Beſides which, if he met with a nimble other Sort of Quadrupede in his Way, he would be apt to catch it, and thereby put a Shilling, two, or three, into his Maſter's Pocket to make merry withal: And for which Reaſons, this Shepherd ſet his Love ſo much on his Dog, that if any one ſtruck it hard, he has been ſeen to cry. It's true, that this Shepherd was a little too extravagant in feeding this his Dog, for he ſeldom was without Bread, or ſome other Food with him, for giving it to the Dog in the Field at his Maſter's Coſt: And yet this was wink'd at, in Conſideration that this Man was a careful diligent Shepherd, and his Dog of great Service in aſſiſting him to look after a Flock of about ſix ſcore Sheep, for folding and dreſſing the plow'd fallow Land of that excellent Farm called *Chedington* Farm; conſiſting of near three hundred Acres, and lying within two Miles of the Town of *Ivinghoe* in *Bucks*, which I help'd a Gentleman to the Purchaſe of; and afterwards had the Superintendency of the ſame, till the Gentleman could conveniently take it into his own Hands; as he did in the Year 1738. The Gentleman I here hint of, was one Captain *John Aldred*, who, in Queen *Anne*'s Wars, made his Fortune, by proving a Scourge to the *French* Nation, when he commanded the *Rocheſter* Man of War; by taking a great Number of their Ships when he had the *Iriſh* Station; and by ruining their Fiſhing Trade when he was Commodore in *Newfoundland*, I think in the laſt Year of the Queen's War. At laſt he buſied himſelf in the Satisfaction of a retired Country Life, by holding this Farm in his Hands.

The Character of a certain Shepherd's good Dog in Hertfordſhire.—One *Thomas Edmunds*, who was Shepherd to that late great Lover of a Country Life, and Improver of his Land, *Scroop*, Duke of *Bridgewater*, the Lord of our Mannor of *Gaddeſden*, in the Year 1744, had a fallow-colour'd Dog of the ſmaller Sort, that he brought up in ſo clever a Manner, as to give his Maſter very little Trouble in looking after a Flock of three hundred Sheep. This

Dog,

Dog, as the Sheep grazed on the large Common of *Barkhampſtead* in *Hertfordſhire*, would attend them ſo cloſe with his Maſter, that he would keep them from ſtraying too far about; and when they were to be driven to the Fold, he would fetch the Stragglers together from near a Mile Diſtance, and then drive them faſt or leiſurely as commanded. If leiſurely, he would keep behind them and not bark; if faſt, he would bark: And when the Flock came to travel through a Lane and narrow Road, in dirty Weather, the Maſter might go in a Path within-ſide a Hedge, and the Dog would drive them ſafe and well. Then when they came to the Gate of the Field, they were to be folded in, he would go before and ſtop them there till they were let in. And, at the uſual Time, this Dog, when bid, would drive them into the Fold; where, if a Sheep run round it, and refuſed to enter, he would certainly take it by the Ear, and oblige it to go in.

Of the different Notions of Shepherds concerning the Breaking of Dogs for their Service.----It is the ſame in this Reſpect as in ten thouſand of others. Mens Fancies vary like their Faces. A compleat Shepherd thinks his Dog unqualify'd, if he does not readily lie down at the Word of Command; to ſtand ſtill when bid; to bark on Occaſion; to bite a Sheep by the Ear in Refuſal of any other Part; to keep by the ſide of his Flock, or to run round them when ordered, *&c.* While another Shepherd, of the indolent Sort, contents himſelf with thinking a Dog broke enough if he can but hunt a Sheep, and drive a Flock; to ſide them, and ſtop at the Word of Command. But a right Shepherd is not ſatisfied if his Dog has not all the good Qualifications before mentioned, and prevent his Flock breaking into other Mens Grounds and feeding on green Corn, although they walk and paſture on the ſide of, and cloſe to it in open Fields: For he is one that will take Care, if there be Graſs enough, to give his Flock their Bellyful; and then a well fed Sheep is not eaſily tempted to bite the green Corn, although it is juſt by them: For a Sheep loves a ſweet Graſs better than green Corn. But if a Sheep, as I ſaid, ſhould attempt it, a true broke Dog is ready to give it ſuch a Memento, as to affright it from doing the like again in haſte.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Of Breaking or Learning Dogs, how to make them ſerviceable Attendants on Shepherds.

The Nature of a Dog deſcribed.

THERE is no wild Beaſt but what if a Man of good Judgment will diligently employ it, he may, by having it under his Juriſdiction at a right Age, tame it; and, from a Savage, reduce it ſo as to become, either a ſerviceable, or an inoffenſive Creature. I have ſeen a pretty large Lion ſo civilized, as to take a Bit of Meat from between the Teeth of his Maſter: One of the largeſt Tygers made ſo familiar, that it ſeemed to me to be as tame as ſome Dogs: A huge white Bear ſo gentle, that I touch'd one of his Tuſks with my Finger. Theſe, it's true, may be tamed, but it is almoſt impoſſible to make them labour to Profit. But, if this could be done, their ravenous Nature would likely damage their Maſter otherways. On the contrary, the generality of domeſtick Animals are but little expenſive, and yet work hard, beſides making the Habitation of Men more agreeable to them than their Liberty; are furniſhed with great Strength, employ it in their Maſter's Service, and immediately obey his Commands. And what Gratuity do they expect for their Toil? Why truly, the Ox and the Horſe a little Graſs; and even the very drieſt, or leaſt valuable of our Grain, ſuffices them. So the Dog is no leſs ſatisfied with a Bone or Cruſt, or with ſome of the moſt offal Fleſh. One muſt be either blind or ungrateful, to deny this Truth, that the Dog is not only tractable, but naturally loving; and never keeps himſelf at a Diſtance from us, but comes to tender us the Variety of his Services. Has any of our Care produced in him Inclinations ſo beneficial to us? Is he form'd by our Induſtry? No certainly. He is juſtly called one of the Deity's moſt amiable Preſents: And thus Providence appears admirable in the Complacency it infuſes into Animals, who live for the Support and Benefit of Mankind. I know, ſays an Author, but very few beſides the Horſe and the Dog, with whom one can maintain a friendly Intercourſe: And, therefore the Proverb ſays, *That a Man, a Horſe, and a Dog, are never*

weary of each other's Company. In Reality, the moſt ingenious Qualities a Dog is capable of acquiring, are not half ſo valuable as thoſe lively and courageous Inſtances of Friendſhip he diſcovers for his Maſter. And it is evident, that God has conſign'd the Dog to Man to ſerve him as a Companion, and to aid and defend him, and all that he has at home; not only from his Maſter's greateſt Enemy, Man, but alſo his Flock of Sheep in the Field, by Night and by Day, from the Injury of Men and Beaſts. Therefore a Shepherd's Dog ſhould not only be of the beſt Sort, but alſo of a ſtrong ſizeable Make; for ſuch a Dog is truly neceſſary to keep a Flock, in fetching and turning the Sheep when they go aſtray, or attempt to paſs their Bounds into forbidden Grounds; keeping about them as a Guard, to prevent the Attempts of wild Beaſts of Prey, or of ſuch Dogs as come in the Night-time to worry and ſuck their Blood. Give theſe Dogs their Food in due time, that they may be the more vigilant in the Night, when Danger moſt requires it.

The Make, Colour, Shape and Courage, of a Shepherd's Dog.—A SHEPHERD generally keeps a rough-coated Dog, partly, I ſuppoſe, for their being, as I ſaid, better enabled by their fluffy warm Coat, to withſtand the Violence of Froſts and cold Winds, or to become the more frightful to their Sheep, and for his cloſer Attendance on his Maſter, as he is ſomewhat ſlower than a ſmooth-coated one, therefore not ſo ſubject to hare and run the Sheep too faſt; and is commonly the moſt ſenſible one of all others; will go in the Dirt, and abide the Water better than moſt Dogs, becauſe he is ſomewhat of the Spaniel Kind.----One *Thomas* ----------, now living at *Edgborough*, in the County of *Bucks*, three Miles from *Gaddeſden*, keeps a large Flock of Sheep on the Commons, and in the Lanes of this large Pariſh, and by folding them at Hire for Farmers, gets a tolerable Living. This Man has a brindle-colour'd, very ſhaggy-hair'd Dog, of the biggeſt Sort, ſo much at Command, as to lie down by a Fold all Night to guard the Sheep till next Morning; and for making haſte on an emergent Occaſion, when Sheep are pent in a narrow Place, will run over their Backs; and in ſeveral other Reſpects, makes himſelf an excellent Shepherd's Dog. Theſe Perfections have tempted his Maſter to ſay, that he believed no Man would give him three Guineas for his Dog, but if it was offer'd, he would refuſe it.----The next is the half rough-ha[illegible]er Dog. Of theſe there are many

many ſtrong ſerviceable Dogs, becauſe they are of the largeſt Size, and of the nimbleſt Heels, will preſently pull down the ſtouteſt Sheep: But then ſuch a Dog ought to have a briſk young Man for his Maſter, who can run and come to him before he ſpoils a Sheep.---Others keep a ſmooth-coated Dog. But let him be of any Sort, he ſhould be rather long than thick-ſided, that he may better perform his Purſuit with the greater Velocity; and ſtrong withal, the better to deal with the Enemies of the Sheep, and defend his Maſter upon Occaſion, againſt any Adverſary. Theſe may all of them be made good Dogs by a right Method of Breaking them; for, I am obliged to ſay, that all Dogs whatſoever are naturally of the wolfiſh Kind, and often do a great deal of Miſchief to Man and Beaſt, if their ſavage and traiterous Diſpoſition is not ſoftened by a good Diſcipline. It is recorded in thoſe fine Volumes, *Spectacle de la Nature*, of two young Wolves, that were brought up in a Gentleman's Houſe, who ſeem'd to be very ſociable, but that they ſoon took Care to undeceive their Owner: For, it is ſaid, that theſe ſly Animals were pleas'd one Morning to quarrel with a Dog, and thought fit to tear him to Pieces; that they likewiſe did their Owner the Favour to kill three of his Kids, and then march'd off into the Woods of *France*, where this Action was done.----I now proceed to treat on that neceſſary Quality, Courage, which all Shepherds Dogs ſhould be endowed with; for if he has not this in a ſufficient Degree, upon any Perſon's ſpeaking harſhly to him, or holding up a Stick, he may be affrighted, and run from his Flock, to the great Damage of his Maſter. On the other hand, a Shepherd's Dog ſhould not have too much Courage, for this Extream may be as bad as the other, by prompting him on to bark too long, running too eagerly after, or amongſt the Sheep; biting them too hard, and in a wrong Part; and haring and running them ſo faſt, as to make them loſe their Appetites, and bring them under a Surfeit, Scab, Foot-rot, *&c.* Yet a proper Degree of Courage is abſolutely neceſſary in a Dog, and ſo is a good Size, that he may be willing and able to ſeize and hold the ſtouteſt Ram, prevent the Flock being hurt by other Dogs; and, as I ſaid, defend his Maſter from the Fury of Aſſailants: For indeed, a Shepherd had need have a good Stand-by near him, as he is one that is obliged to be Abroad early and late, by Night as well as by Day; or elſe what would become of his Lambs in the Lambing Seaſon, in ſome Parts

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The Benefit of learning a Dog the firſt Motion, or Trick, to lie down at the Word of Command, with the Method of doing it.----To lie down, is generally the firſt Act of Obedience that Shepherds teach a Dog, for on this Motion very much depends the Dog's Submiſſion to thoſe ſeveral other Commands that are to be learnt him afterwards; and the rather, as he is eaſier brought to this firſt Trick than any of the reſt. To lie down is a Motion to be commanded a Dog on ſeveral Accounts, as when a Flock is feeding in a Place out of any Danger of their ſtraying or doing any Damage; or where he is to lie down at a Place that Sheep muſt not have Acceſs to; or for the readier ſuffering a Flock to paſs by him with the leſs Fear. As to the firſt, it is certain that the Shepherd and his Dog muſt ſometimes reſt themſelves from being off their Feet, which, in hot Seaſons eſpecially, is very refreſhing to their Bodies, while they lie, or ſit on the Ground. The Shepherd then bids his Dog lie down; and, where the Sheep feed in Safety, the Dog has no Buſineſs to ſtand up and watch. Secondly, A Dog may be of Service when he is commanded to lie down at a Gate or Gateway, or at the Door of a Fold, or at the End of a narrow Paſſage, for making the Sheep keep back *in Terrorem*: For when he lies down, and remains on ſuch a Spot of Ground, his Body proves a ſort of Barrier, and obliges the Sheep not to advance any further that Way. This Trick the Dog ought to be well apprized of, that he may at once obey his Maſter's Command, whether he is before or behind him. Thirdly, It often happens that the Shepherd has Occaſion to call off his Dog from a Place, in order to let the Flock paſs by him unmoleſted: In this Caſe, he is obliged to retire or lie down, for being moſtly out of Sight of the Sheep, that they may leiſurely, and with the leſs Concern, paſs by him. And ſo readily ſhould a Dog do this, that a Hold-up of the Hand, and a Word of the Mouth, ſhould be Signal enough from the Shepherd to make him be obeyed at a good Diſtance. Now for bringing a Dog to lie down at the Word of Command: When a Dog lies down of his own accord by his Maſter, he has then an Opportunity, with encouraging Words, to keep him down *per* Force in a couchant Poſture, with ſaying, Lie down, lie down. And ſo, at other Times, he ſhould be forcibly bowed down, by bending his Legs till he falls; giving him, after ſome Repetitions of the Words, Lie down, a Cruſt, or other dry Food: And if he can't be brought to do this at

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the Word of Command by fair Means, you muſt proceed by Corrections, while you have him in a Collar and String, and he will ſoon come to it, by one or both theſe Means.

The ſecond Trick, or Motion, to be taught a Shepherd's Dog, is to ſtand ſtill at the Word of Command.----This Trick is abſolutely neceſſary to be taught a Dog, that he may, at the firſt Word of Command, ſtand ſtill; for driving a Flock of Sheep no further, or for letting them quietly paſs by him, or for keeping them from going through a Gap in a Hedge, preventing them entering a Gate-way, or into a Fold too ſoon; or for hindering Sheep coming out of it before their Time, or from breaking into Corn or Graſs; which Motion, or Trick, is to be learn'd him by frequent Repetition of the Words----Stand ſtill----And is what ſome apt Dogs will quickly take by fair Means, with the Uſe only of the Gift of a Cruſt now and then, and by frequent Repetition of the Words. If he won't, Recourſe muſt be had to foul Means. And when a Dog is thus compleatly qualified, he will be a very ſerviceable Agent.

The third Trick, or Motion, that is to be learnt a Shepherd's Dog, is to bark at the Word of Command.----THIS is a very valuable Qualification in a Shepherd's Dog, and therefore he ought to be thoroughly taught it, in ſuch a Manner, that he may raiſe his Voice and bark at the Word of Command, and ceaſe it as ſoon. For the Voice of this Creature is, next to attacking a Sheep with its Teeth, ſuch a Terror to it, as will force it to walk or run when the Maſter can't do it: For ſo great an Antipathy have Sheep to the Bark of a Dog, that even a little one is capable of driving on a Flock of a Thouſand. Now to learn a Dog this ſerviceable Trick, the Shepherd muſt imitate the Dog's Bark with his Mouth, and now and then in ſo doing, he ſhould give him a Cruſt of Bread, and frequently accuſtom him to theſe Words----Speak up----For you muſt know, that this vocal Motion is not to be taught a Dog by Correction, for there is no ſuch Thing as forcing him to it, no more than there is to beat a Dog for making him fight: Therefore, this Sort of Documenting muſt be carried on altogether by fair and encouraging Means. I remember, when I was a Boy, I did, for my Diverſion, thus teach a mongrel Cur of my Father's to cry ſomewhat like a Child; and he would do it to the Satisfaction of a Company. I have alſo ſeen a Corn-Cutter walk through a Street in *London*, with a large half-ſhaggy Dog by his ſide, that would,

would, on his Maſter's bidding him cry his Trade, bark, and make ſuch a howling Noiſe, as tempted many to look out to ſee the Reaſon of it, which anſwered the deſired End; for, the Maſter's Deſire was, to let People know, and take Notice, that there was ſuch a Man ready to cut their Corns or Nails, or draw Teeth.

Another Way to teach a Shepherd's Dog to bark at Sheep at the Word of Command.----As the beſt Way of driving Sheep is to do it by the Barking of a Dog, it makes the learning of him ſo to do of the greater Importance. Therefore to bring a Dog to do it at the Word of Command, out of his natural Way, that is to ſay, to begin and leave off when he is bid, is the Thing aimed at. Now, although I have directed the bringing a Dog to do this, by endeavouring to make him imitate the Voice of a Shepherd, and encouraging the ſame with the Benefaction of a Piece of Bread now and then, yet there is another Way in Uſe----The Shepherd muſt have a Stick in his Hand, and, with a familiar good-humour'd Air, he muſt ſtrike it frequently on the Ground, ſaying, at the ſame time, with an audible Voice----Speak up Boy----For, by theſe Motions, the Dog is provoked to bark, and, by often repeating them, he will delight in being thus noiſy at the Word of Command; and when he has been duly broke to it, it is eaſy learning him to leave off barking.

A fourth Trick, or Motion, is to learn a Shepherd's Dog to go round a Flock.----THIS Trick is likewiſe to be taught a Dog in a familiar Way, by throwing a Stone now and then before him in a good Humour; for there is hardly any ſuch Thing as learning a Shepherd's Dog to do this by beating him, as he is not a direct Spaniel. A Spaniel indeed will, in many Caſes, learn Diſcipline better with beating than without it. But this ſort of Dog, which is generally of the mongrel Kind, muſt be brought to anſwer this Motion, at the Word of Command, by throwing a Stone a little Way at a Time, and enlarging the Throw by Degrees, till he will round a Flock and bring them for the Shepherd, ſingling out any that are infected with the Scab, or with Maggots, or have ſore Heads, or ſore Feet to dreſs, or are otherwiſe to be ſearch'd, and have a Remedy applied to them. This Motion is alſo a very neceſſary Qualification for a Dog to be endowed with, on Account of folding Sheep; for when a Shepherd wants to gather his ſcattering Flock together, that are ſpread at ſome Diſtance about a Field,

Field, he ſends his Dog to round them, and oblige them to come into a cloſer Body, for the better getting them into the Fold. The ſame on Commons, when a large Flock ſometimes part, and be near half a Mile or more in Parcels, to find and pick the beſt Living. In theſe Caſes, a Dog that is well taught to do this, is not a little ſerviceable in ſaving his Maſter much Time and Trouble; ſo in driving a Flock any where, a Dog taught to round well, will greatly help a Drover in keeping them as he would have them, prevent their ſtraggling, and make them travel to the beſt Advantage. A Dog that is thus taught to round well, will go his Lengths about a Flock at a quarter, a half, three quarters, or a whole Round, according to the limited Diſtance appointed him by the Shepherd, at the Word of Command.

A fifth Trick, or Motion, to be taught a Shepherd's Dog, is to ſide a Flock of Sheep.----THIS Trick, among many Shepherds, is accounted a very ſerviceable one, becauſe of the Dog's Uſefulneſs in keeping along one Side of a Flock of Sheep, as they are driving or grazing along narrow Roads, Lanes, or other ſtrait Places of Paſſage, for the greater Aſſurance of Sheeps not ſtraying and doing Damage to green Wheat, or other Corn or Graſs. And ſo well diſciplin'd are ſome Dogs to this Motion, that they'll keep along one Side of a Flock, in the Sheeps Pace, for good Part of a Day together, and prevent their feeding on any Vegetable, that is not for them. Now for teaching a Dog to do this, it depends on a Shepherd's bringing him to obey the Word of Command, of going forward, or retreating back, or to ſtand ſtill. When he is to ſide a Flock, the Words may be----Go ſide them----And, by degrees, the Dog will become ſuch a Proficient in this ſerviceable Action, that he'll bite a Sheep by the Ear, if he does but feed where he ſhould not.

The ſixth Trick, or Motion, to be taught a Shepherd's Dog, is how he ſhould take a Sheep by the Ear.----To qualify a Dog for performing this, is, I think, of more Importance to a Shepherd than any other Motion, I have hitherto been writing of. And it may be truly ſaid, that the breaking a Dog to do this, muſt be attended with more Difficulty, than in teaching him to do any other Trick or Motion; for it has been found, by troubleſome Experience, that ſome Dogs can never be rightly brought to do it, but will, inſtead of taking a Sheep in the right Place by the Ear, bite it

wrong in ſome worſer Part, and thereby may wound and kill a Sheep. There are ſeveral Conveniencies attending the Performance of this Motion; as when a ſingle Sheep ſtrays, by running or going from the Flock, in driving to or from the Fold, &c. the Dog muſt then be the Meſſenger to run, reclaim, and bring it back again; which to do, he ſtops him, by ſeizing his Ear, and either holds him till his Maſter comes, or forces him to return back without the Maſter. So when a Sheep forages beyond its Bounds, and goes into green Corn, Turnips, Rapes, Graſs, or other Vegetables, where it ſhould not go, then the Dog is to be ſent after it; and if the Sheep returns not by fair Means, the Dog will bite it by the Ear, and oblige it by Force. Again, when a Shepherd wants to ſingle out a Sheep from among his Flock, to feel and ſee if any Scabs, Maggots, or any other Malady has infected the Sheep, or to dreſs any hurt or wounded Sheep, or for ſome other Reaſon; the Dog, if he is a right broken one, will, on the Shepherd's pointing and ſhewing him the Sheep, run into the Flock, and catch and hold it by the Ear till his Maſter comes. Now, to break a Dog to be thus qualify'd, my Directions are, That a Sheep be put into a Fold, with only a Dog that is to be thus taught, here to run it about by little and little at a Time, and to ſet the Dog after it, at the ſame Time clapping the Sheep's Ear into his Mouth, to make him mumble and bite it a little: And, by repeating this, the Dog, if he is any ways apt, will quickly learn to ſeize the Ear before any other Part. Or take it thus; the Dog is to be ſet on the Sheep as if it was to be worried by him, and after this has been done ſeveral times, the Shepherd muſt then cut one of the Sheep's Ears enough to make it bleed, and put the Mouth of the Dog to it that he taſte it: This is to be the Practice in the firſt Beginning of his Teaching to take a Sheep by the Ear; and when the Dog has made ſome Progreſs in this capital Trick, the Shepherd ſhould have a Leather Muzzle made, and kept in his Pocket, that he may have it ready at any Time to put over the Dog's Chaps; but ſo looſe, that he may have Room enough to open his Jaws wide enough to bite the Sheep's Ear, as the moſt proper Part for holding a Sheep by. Yet ſome Dogs are ſo untoward, that they'll ſeize a Sheep by its Fore Legs, which, I muſt own, is the next right Place to the Ear for him to bite and hold by. But here a Wound may be of ſuch ill Conſequence amongſt the Guides and Sinews, that it

it may be very difficult to cure, if it can be cured at all. There are likewiſe ſome Dogs ſo obſtinate to be reclaim'd, that they'll ſeize a Sheep in the firſt Part they can lay hold on. Such a Dog is not fit for a Shepherd's Service.

A ſecond Way to learn a Dog to ſeize a Sheep by the Ear.---As the making a Dog Maſter of this Trick, or Motion, is of the greateſt Conſequence to a Shepherd's Service of all others, I here add a ſecond Invention for enticing a Dog to learn it in the quickeſt, and, I think, in the eaſieſt Manner poſſible, and that is, by tying a Cruſt of Bread to the Ear of the Sheep; then, by ſhewing the Dog the Cruſt, and ſetting him at the Sheep, he will readily ſeize it. Thus, by Repetitions, he will be preſently acquainted with the Place, and, in Time, without any Correction, catch a Sheep by the Ear at the Word of Command. But for riveting the Dog in the ſudden Performance of this moſt ſerviceable Action, the Shepherd, after he has thus familiariz'd the Dog to the Ear of the Sheep, may give it a little Cut or Slit, for cauſing it to bleed, which when the Dog has taſted twice or thrice, he will eagerly run to this Part, and bite a Sheep by the Ear before any Place elſe.

A third Way to learn a Shepherd's Dog to take a Sheep by the Ear.----THIS leather Part of a Sheep lying the readieſt, and moſt expoſed to the Bite of a Dog, as if deſign'd by the omnipotent and good Maker of all Things, for the Dog's ready Seizure of it, to correct the ſtraggling Sheep, and affright its timorous Nature into a ſafe Subjection to its Shepherd; the well diſciplining a Dog to it has put ſeveral on Trials to make him a compleat Maſter of this Action: Two Ways of doing which I have already directed, and now come to ſhew how it may be done a third Way. A certain Shepherd, for this Purpoſe, kept a Piece of Rind of Bacon in his Pocket for as many Days together as he thought anſwered his Deſign, in bringing a Dog to ſeize a Sheep by the Ear at the Word of Command. At firſt, he put the Dog and Sheep into a Fold, or Pen, or Yard, or other incloſed Place, and after making a Hole in the Piece of Rind, he faſtened it by a ſmall Cord about the Sheep's Neck, and cloſe to its Ear; this done, he would bring the Dog's Mouth to the Rind for his ſmelling and knowing it, then would ſet him after the Sheep, and by encouraging him on, the Dog ran directly to the Part for pulling off the Rind; and in pulling it, he muſt bite the Ear, which he did the more in ſtriving to get off the Rind; and if he

got it off, he could not preſently eat it, ſo that the Shepherd had Time enough to take it from him, and reſerve it for more Trials, till he perfected his Dog in this one moſt ſerviceable Branch of Diſcipline.

How a Dog was learnt to ſeize a Man, by firſt taking hold of his Sword or Stick.----THIS Dog I ſaw that was taught to ſeize either a Sword or Stick in a Man's Hand. His Way was this: When he had got hold of the Stick or Sword near its Point, he would gather more and more, by degrees, towards the Hand, without letting go his Hold of the Sword or Stick; and when he had got near the Hilt, he would at once ſeize the Hand, and thus become the Man's Maſter.

How a Dog was taught to ſeize a Man by his Buckle, or the Inſtep of his Foot.----THIS was really done, and to that Perfection was the Dog taught, that a Man who is ſeized in the Inſtep by this Dog, muſt be obliged to ſtop, as not daring to go any further; yet he will not hurt the Man in any other Part, nor here neither, otherwiſe than to oblige him to ſtand ſtill, till by the Word of his Maſter's Command, he was releaſed. This Dog I have likewiſe ſeen.

How a certain Gentleman had his Hounds broke, to prevent their hunting and biting Sheep.----This worthy Gentleman, whoſe Seat I have been at, not in the leaſt willing to do his Tenants and Neighbours any Damage by Means of his Pack of Hounds, takes timely Care to prevent it, by keeping a ſtout old Ram, partly on Purpoſe to break his young Hounds, which he has duly done, as ſoon as they arriv'd at a proper Age; by his Servants incloſing both a young Hound and the Ram in a ſafe Place where they can't get out; here the Ram butts and beats the young Hound to that Degree, till he cries and ſcreams in a lamentable Manner, becauſe he cannot make his Eſcape: And when they think he has been thus ſufficiently beaten, they releaſe him as a cured Hound, againſt ever after hunting, falling on, or biting any Sheep or Lamb.

How a prudent Farmer broke a Dog of his natural ſavage Temper, for preventing his biting Sheep in a hurtful wrong Manner.----IF all Farmers, and others who are Owners of Sheep, would do like this Farmer, we ſhould not have thoſe frequent Damages done that too frequently happen. For if a large Dog is not broke by good Diſcipline, of his natural, ſavage, wolfiſh Nature, it is a Chance if he do not, one time or other, ſome Miſchief to the Sheep. Wherefore this prudent, foreſighted Farmer, when a Dog is at a ſufficient

Maturity

Maturity of Age, puts him into an incloſed ſafe Place, and then turns a Ram, and a horned Ewe, and Lamb in to him. Here the Ram and Ewe have both of them a full Opportunity to diſplay their Antipathy to their grand Enemy, the Dog, ſo as for ever making him forbear worrying or biting a Sheep in a wrong Manner. The Ewe, jealous of the Dog's hurting her Lamb, falls on him with the utmoſt Fury; the Ram likewiſe, ſenſible of his horned Ability, out of his great Averſion to the Dog, makes many fierce Buttings at him, and redoubles them as often as he well can, till the poor Cur is almoſt bruiſed to Death: Inſomuch, that the Impreſſion, theſe his two horned Lictors thus make on him, muſt conſequently implant that Terror in him, as will never be eraſed out of his Memory. But, miſtake me not, this Sort of Diſcipline is adviſed for breaking a Farmer's Yard Dog, and not a Shepherd's Dog; for if a Shepherd's Dog was to be ſo ſerved, it would be the direct Way to hinder him ever being ſerviceable to a Flock of Sheep. But of this Sort of Breaking a Yard Dog, ſee more by the following Account.

A Method practiſed by this Author, to break his Yard Dog of his ſavage Nature, ſo as to prevent his ever hurting Sheep.---WHEN my Yard Dog is about half a Year old, I then, with a ſufficient Help, fix a Leather Collar about his Neck, and to it I faſten a Cord, about ten or twelve Feet in Length; the other End of it I tie to the Horn of an old Ram; this done, as the Ram and the Dog are both in the Field, I hawl the Dog near to the Ram for provoking the Ram to butt him, and as the Ram grows more and more exaſperated, I give the Dog the more String, by which his ſtriving to get away is the more increaſed; the Dog ſometimes running to the Extent of his Cord, and the Ram after him, ſo that this Sort of worrying the Dog becomes an entertaining Hunt, in ſeeing how the Ram aſſaults the young Dog with the ſharp Ends of his Horns, and how the poor Cur cries and ſtrives to get from him in vain. And to make this Fray more effectually anſwer its End, with a hand Whip we now and then give the Dog a Cut to make him cry; for the more he cries, the more the Ram butts him. And thus we continue the Diſcipline till we think the Dog ſufficiently civiliz'd for ever afterwards.

The beſt Method of breaking a Dog's four Fangs, to prevent his biting Sheep too hard.----THIS Vice, ſome of the moſt underſtanding Shepherds are ſo careful to prevent, that they

they will not ſuffer their Dogs to ſeize a Hog, becauſe the Hog, in ſuch a Caſe, makes ſuch noiſy boiſterous Efforts to get away from a Dog when he is pinch'd by him, that he is obliged to bite the harder to ſtop and hold him. And as a Hog has the largeſt Ears of any Creature of his Size, the Dog has at once a full ſoft Hold, which encourages him to bite the more forcibly: If, therefore, a Dog is allowed in frequently hunting and biting Hogs by their Ears, he will aſſuredly alſo bite a Sheep too hard. Now, whether a Dog is brought under this Vice by biting Swine, or it comes to him by Nature, the Cure is the ſame, and may be accompliſh'd, if performed in the following Manner.---Get ready a ſhort thickiſh Stick, with a String fixed at each End of it, then force the Stick into the Dog's Mouth, and tie each End of it behind his Head; and while one or two Men hold him, the Shepherd, with a Pair of Iron Pincers, muſt break his four Fangs in two. But then the Dog muſt be fed with ſoft Meat for ſome Time, till his Stumps grow hard, and he is able to gnaw a Bone. And if the four Fangs of ſome Dogs are not thus ſerved, they will be apt to bite a Sheep ſo hard, in tender Places eſpecially, as to do them much Damage, if not kill them. Somewhat like this I have ſeen a Bear ſerved, who bit the Dogs ſo hard, and wounded them ſo much, that their Owners would not let them fight the Bear any longer, unleſs the Maſter of it blunted his four Fangs or Tuſks. Now the Bear's Owner knowing that he could not carry on his weekly Bear-baitings without ſeveral Perſons brought their Bear-dogs to fight, he directly provided Tackling for this Purpoſe; and having drove two wooden Poſts into the Ground ſo deep, that only a Foot of each was left above it, they faſtened a Chain about the Bear's Neck, and forced him to lie on his Back; and as his Head was fixed between the two Poſts, they clapt a thick ſhort Stick into his Mouth, which, after they had well ſecured, another with a ſharp Saw, preſently cut his four Fangs aſunder, and thus qualify'd the Bear to be baited in Safety to the Dogs.

The Method of taking out the White Nerve-ſtring or Worm, from out of a Dog's Tongue.---In all Spaniels, and moſt other Dogs, there is a whitiſh Nerve-ſtring or Worm, that lies long-ways under his Tongue, that is very neceſſary to be taken out, becauſe it will for ever prevent his biting any Creature if he ſhould go mad. An Author ſays, he has proved this to be true, by the following Caſe: Having two

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of his Dogs bit by mad Dogs at three ſeveral Times, that were wormed; and though they died mad, yet they did not bite, nor do any Miſchief to any Thing he had: But to make a full Experiment of it, he ſhut one of them up in a Kennel, and put to him a Dog he did not value; the mad Dog would often run at the other to bite him, but he found his Tongue ſo ſwell'd in his Mouth, that he could not make his Teeth meet; and the Dog which was kept with the mad one till he died, did not ail any thing, though he was kept two Years afterwards without having any Remedies given him to prevent the Harm. Now to take out this Nerve or Worm, from under the Dog's Tongue, the Dog ſhould be two or three Months old before it is attempted; then the Dog muſt be held by ſtrong Hands, while he that is to take out his Worm forces open the Dog's Mouth, and by laying hold of his Tongue, he, with a Penknife, may ſlit the Fleſh a very little on each Side, and cloſe to the Worm; then, with a Shoemaker's Awl that is to be run under it, he muſt raiſe it by Degrees, till he draws it quite out; for if he leaves any Part of the Nerve or Worm behind, the Labour is in vain; for till this is clearly taken away, he will not rightly thrive nor reſt well, becauſe the Worm elſe will grow foul and troubleſome to him. And to cure the Wound, anoint with a Mixture of Honey and Allom, and it will be ſoon well. But in caſe a Dog is bitten by a mad Dog, uſe the following Remedy.

The Behaviour, Nature, and Cure of a mad Dog.---- WHEN a Dog is mad, he is under great Pain, to that Degree as ſoon kills him. In the Beginning of this malign Diſtemper, the Dog not knowing how to bear it, commonly ſets out in Confuſion, ſeparates himſelf from all other Dogs, hangs down or droops his Head, can eat nothing, trots or runs; and as he goes on, ſnatches at Things, but chiefly at Dogs, which he moſt furiouſly bites; often looks upwards, with reddiſh Eyes, a hoarſe Voice, and, it's ſaid, has a ſtrong Breath, drivels and foams at Mouth; and the Creature he bites will ſurely have the ſame Malady, if not timely prevented. A mad Dog will never cry if you beat him.----When any of a certain Gentleman's Hounds fall mad, who keeps a Pack of them near *Gaddeſden*, the Huntſman puts them into a Place to be killed; and it was one of theſe that an Experiment was made on. They heated a Poker red hot, and holding it near the mad Hound's Mouth,

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he greedily ſeized it, and held it till it made his Fleſh flare, yet never let go his Hold nor cried.---If a Dog is bitten by a mad one, the next Receipt directs the Uſe of a good old Remedy.----Take Rue, pick'd, clean'd and waſh'd, ſix Ounces; of Garlick pick'd and bruiſed, four Ounces; ſcraped Pewter or Tin, four Spoonfuls; of *Venice* Treacle, four Ounces: Theſe muſt be ſimmer'd in a Pan or Skillet over a gentle Fire, cloſe-cover'd, in two Quarts of ſtrong Ale, or better Beer one Hour, then ſtrain it off. It is to be given warm to a Man, and cold to a Beaſt, for three Mornings together faſting, and faſt two Hours after it: To be given within nine Days after the Bite, and to be repeated at ſix Days End. Ten, eleven, or twelve Spoonfuls is enough for an Ox, Horſe, or Bullock; ſeven or eight to the ſtrongeſt Man, and leſs for thoſe that are younger and weak; three, four, or five Spoonfuls, is enough for a Dog, Hog, or Sheep :----Or take a very large Tub, and put into it a Buſhel and a Peck of Coal-ſoot, or a Buſhel and a Half of Wood-ſoot; then pour Water on it till there be a ſufficient Quantity to waſh and bathe a Dog it: The Soot muſt be ſoundly ſtirr'd in the Water till all is well mixed, then plunge the Dog that is bitten by the mad one into it, over Head and Ears, and do this at leaſt ſeven Times or more, and bleed him beſides. Now if the Dog can but lick the Wound with his Tongue, it exceeds all Remedies.----The next Receipt is to waſh the mad Dog in Sea Water, or in Water made very ſalt, then give him ſome *Venice* Treacle, or Mithridate, in a little Canary. If none of theſe prove a Cure, hang the Dog without fail.---The fourth Receipt is to take white Hellebore Root, dried, and grated to a Powder, and of it give a Maſtiff Dog ſixteen Grains, to a Lap Dog give but three Grains; and thus in Proportion to the Bigneſs of other Dogs. Obſerve alſo to give it in ſmall Parcels at firſt, and increaſe it as it works; for it is a ſtrong Vomit, and will make the Dog ſick for the preſent; wherefore he muſt be kept warm, and have warm Broth given him; but don't give him cold Water for a Day or two. Or for a fifth Receipt, you may take yellow middle Bark of Buckthorn, and boil it in Milk, till the Milk is made thoroughly bitter; and, it is ſaid, that ſeveral Creatures that have been bitten by mad Dogs have been cured by this Remedy alone.

Of ſpaying a Bitch.----It may be that a Shepherd is deſirous to have his Bitch ſpayed, for its better attending the Flock

Flock free of the Interruption of breeding Whelps; if ſo, this Operation is beſt performed by common Hog-gelders, while the Bitch is not proud nor too fat, for if ſhe is in either of theſe Conditions, her Life is in Danger by the Operation. About a Fortnight after ſhe has been proud, is a good Time to ſpay her; and you may do it before or after ſhe has had a Litter of Whelps, which I have known done for a Groat, and the Bitch ſeemed to be as ſerviceable as ever.

A Shepherd's Dog broke his Neck, running after a Sheep.--THIS happened to be done on *Dunſtable Downs*, where the Dog run after a ſtray Sheep ſo faſt, that he tumbled over his Head and diſlocated his Neck; for the Side of this Down lies ſo exceſſive ſteep, that it is no Wonder it ſo happened. The like I have known befal a Dog on *Gaddeſden-Green*, which lies on a far leſs Declination.

How a Shepherd's Dog ſaved his Maſter from being robbed.-----THIS Shepherd has been in my Service, when he told me that, formerly, having almoſt a new Coat on his Back, and being in the Field looking after his Flock in the Duſk of the Evening, a travelling Fellow came to him, and ſaid he muſt deliver his Coat, which being refuſed, he ſaid he would have it, and began to ſeize the little Shepherd, (for he was one of the ſmalleſt Size:) Upon this, he call'd to his Dog, and bid him take hold of him; and accordingly the Dog, on the firſt Word of Command, fell on the Fellow, took him by the Throat, and preſently pull'd him down, which made him cry out for Help; and then the Shepherd took off the Dog, and the Rogue went learing away.

Sheep wounded and killed in ſeveral Manners by Dogs.

How twenty Sheep were killed, and twenty wounded, by a Bitch and a Dog, in one Night.

THIS was done at *Seabrook* near *Iwinghoe* in *Buckinghamſhire*, near which Place one Farmer kept a ſpay'd Bitch, and another Farmer a Maſtiff Dog; the Bitch was always let looſe, and the Dog always kept collar'd, and without any Miſtruſt of their killing Sheep: But ſo it happened, that fifty Sheep being in an incloſed, two-Acre Field, at *Seabrook*, theſe two four-legged Thieves came in the Night-time, and killed twenty Sheep outright, and wounded twenty; the other ten made their Eſcape out of the Field, and got home to their Owner's Yard. Now the Maſter, Mr. *Payne*, a Yeoman

of a good Eſtate, being up very early, ſaw theſe ten Sheep at his Yard Gate, upon which he called up his Shepherd, and told him he was almoſt ſure there was ſome Miſchief done, and they found it accordingly; for there were twenty Sheep lying dead in a Heap at the Gate of the Field, where the poor Creatures were ſtriving to get out, and twenty more were wounded. The ſpay'd Bitch was diſcover'd before ſhe got home, and finding herſelf betray'd, abſented herſelf from home for three Days together; but the Dog returned to *Ivinghoe* ſoon enough to be out of Suſpicion; and having clean'd himſelf, put his Head into the Collar, and look'd as innocent as ever. However, their Rapine was found out, and both of them were hang'd.

The extraordinary Subtilty of three Dogs, that kill'd many Sheep before they were diſcover'd.----THIS happened in the Pariſh of *Albury* in *Hertfordſhire*, where there had been a Cart Load of Sheep killed at Times, without knowing the Killer of them: This put one of the ſuffering Farmers upon his Guard, leſt more of his Sheep ſhould be killed; and for this Purpoſe, he employed a Man to ſit in a Hedge with a Gun in a Moon-ſhine Night, to wait for the Enemy: And it was not long before he ſaw a Dog appear in the Gap of a Hedge, ſtaring at the Sheep, but came not into the Field. However the Watchman kept his Poſt, and lay cloſe, but not long before he ſaw three Dogs come running in a full Career among the Sheep, and begun to fall on them; then the Man thought it high time to run with all his Speed with his Gun in his Hand (for he could not fire without wounding the Sheep) and ſoon diſperſed theſe voracious Tyrants to the delivering the Sheep from their Rapine. By this, the Man got Sight enough of the Dogs to know them again; and next Day found they belonged to three ſeveral Farmers, *viz.* Mr. *Dean*, of *Rindell*, Mr. *Pratt*, of *Dagnal*, and Mr. *Butler*, of *Ward*; the furtheſt of which lived but at two Miles Diſtance from *Albury*, the others at one Mile Diſtance. Mr. *Dean*'s Dog was found to be the Ringleader, who appeared at the Gap, went home, and ſitting on his Arſe, howl'd ſo loud, that the Noiſe prov'd a Signal to the other two for coming to the Place of Rendezvous, though it was a full Mile Diſtance from each other. They were all three hang'd.

How a Farmer had like to have been ruin'd by unknown Dogs, who kill'd his Sheep Week after Week, while in the Fold.----THIS Farmer Mr. *Arrot*, was a Perſon that rented a Farm about ſixty Pounds a Year, Part of whoſe Ground lay

lay juſt by ſome of mine, and was an induſtrious Man, but had nothing to live on but the Profits of this Farm, to bring up a large Family with. To this Man a Misfortune happened that had like to have undone him, had it continued much longer: For on a *Wedneſday* Night he had ſeven Sheep killed outright in his Fold, and every Sheep had a bloody Hole made near the Ear in its Neck, as if the Beaſt had been ſtuck by a Butcher. Somewhat like the ſame happened on the *Wedneſday* Night following, when the Farmer had ſeveral more Sheep killed in the ſame Fold; which ſo diſmayed the poor Man, that he ſaid he muſt be undone. This brought him under a Reſolution to make one of his Servants watch on the third *Wedneſday* Night with a Gun charg'd with Slugs, within Reach of the Fold, where he had a good View, and in full Shelter, as it was in the Midſt of Summer; but neither Man nor Dog appear'd that Night, by Reaſon that the ſame two Dogs that kill'd this Man's, kill'd others about half a Mile off, and were ſhot by a Watchman the very ſame Night; one whereof was kill'd outright, and the other wounded, yet none could tell whoſe Dogs theſe were, but they had a vehement Suſpicion they were Butchers Dogs, who all the Year bring Meat from *Leighton* to *Hempſtead* Market on a *Wedneſday* Night, tho' theſe Towns lie twelve Miles apart. And as Mr. *Arnot*'s, and the other Farmer's Fields, lay near the *Hempſtead* Road, theſe Dogs took it in their Way to fall upon the Sheep as they were following their Maſters thither.

The Caſe of a Miller, who was terribly wounded by his own Dog, and near being torn to Pieces, for hanging him up by the Heels to prove him Guilty or not Guilty of killing Sheep.---In the adjacent Field to the Town of *Ivinghoe*, in the County of *Bucks*, there was one Sheep killed in the Night-time by an unknown Dog or Dogs; this put ſeveral Perſons, of the ſame Town, that were Owners of Sheep, upon endeavouring to find out the Sheep-killing Dog; and, in order to it, ſeveral hung up their Dogs by the Heels the next Morning, as believing by this, they might find him out; for that the Dog which had fill'd his Belly with the Blood and Fleſh of the Sheep, would, by long hanging, be obliged to vomit ſome of it up. Now, among others, that tried this Experiment, the Maſter Miller, Mr. *Burt*, of *Ivinghoe*, who rents the two Water-Mills of this Town, hung up his Dog by the Heels, and let him hang ſo for the Space of two Hours, but without his ſpewing any Blood; at the

End of which Time he cut him down, and no ſooner had he recovered his Feet, but he ran directly in a very furious Manner at his Maſter, who, to keep him off his Body, employed both his Hands in the beſt Manner he could; yet the Dog thus enraged, bit what he could come at, and wounded and tore him in his Wriſt and in both his Legs, inſomuch that his Life was in great Danger. When he had been taken off his Maſter, they thought the Dog's Rage was pacified, and would do no further Miſchief; but ſo it was, that a poor Beggar Boy being on the Spot, the Dog ran likewiſe at him, and bit him ſadly. At this Juncture of Time, a Horſe came by the Houſe in View of the Dog, and ſerved for a third Object to vent his Fury on; for he directly ſeized on him, and, it was thought, would have ſpoiled him, had not ſufficient Help been at hand to deliver the Horſe. The Dog was hanged, by Order of his Maſter, this Time by the Neck, till he was dead, on the 24th Day of *June*, 1745.

The Caſe of this Author, who had a Dog that killed three of his Neighbour's Sheep, and how he made him Satisfaction. ----A FRIEND of mine, in *London*, thinking to do me a Pleaſure, ſent me down by the Carrier, a fine, large, handſome Dog, for my Yard Uſe, which I was not a little pleas'd with: But ſo it happened, that it was not long before he went out one Night, and killed a Sheep of my Neighbour's without Diſcovery. But as my Dog had been newly brought from *London*, and living near the Place where the Sheep was killed, the Owner very much ſuſpected him, and accordingly deſired Leave of me to have him tried, by hanging him up by the Heels to make him vomit; but vomit he did not, and ſo was cut down as innocent: But the Truth came out at laſt; for it was not long afterwards before he made another Slaughter, by killing two more Sheep of the ſame Man's, and then was diſcovered. Upon this I had my Dog hang'd till he was dead, and bid him go chuſe and take three of my beſt Sheep out of the Flock, which he did, and was well ſatisfied. For I could never reconcile my Conſcience to the common Cuſtom of only hanging my Dog, let him kill ever ſo many Sheep, without making Reſtitution for the ſame. Therefore, I think it would be a good Law made, that ſhould oblige all Perſons of Ability, to make full Satisfaction for all Damage that may in this Manner be done, by their Dog or Dogs; which, as it now is, few, very few, will do voluntarily; And thus a poor Man

may

may have his Flock of Sheep deſtroyed in one Night's Time, without having any Recompence made him by an able Perſon.

How, by the Help of two Soldiers, two Dogs were deſtroyed, that uſed to kill many Sheep.---ONE was a Tanner's large Dog, that always was thought to be faſtened by a Collar and Chain in a Yard, at the End of *Leighton* Town in *Bedfordſhire*; the other was a Dog that lived at *Linſlot*, a Mile from *Leighton*, and always went looſe. Now, it was found to be a Cuſtom with this looſe Dog, to ſit on the great Rock at *Linſlot*, and, by his Howl, call the Farmer's Dog; who, on hearing it, directly ſlipt his Collar, ſwam croſs *Leighton* River, and got to the Dog on the Rock, from whence they went their Progreſs, till they found Sheep fitting for their Prey; which when they had kill'd and eaten, they would return home. The Tanner's Dog, after he had rubb'd and clean'd his Chaps, put his Head into his Collar, and lay undiſturb'd and unſuſpected: Till at laſt, they had kill'd ſo many Sheep, that two of the Gentlemen Horſe Soldiers, then at *Leighton*, accepted the Proffer of a handſome Treat, if they would go out with their Guns, watch, and kill thoſe Dogs that did ſo much Miſchief. They went, and, luckily, wounded one, and kill'd another; ſo that both were known to be the Dogs I write of.

An Account of above twenty Pounds Damage done in one Week, by two Dogs that kill'd and wounded fourteen Sheep of this Author's, and many others of neighbouring Farmers.---ON the 19th Day of *July*, 1745, I had thirteen of my Sheep wounded, and one killed outright in my Fold, by two Dogs, ten of which I cured by a Receipt I ſhall by and by make known; but three were ſo much torn, that I ſold them to my Butcher. About this Time there were ſo many Sheep of one Man's, bit by the ſame Dogs, that thirteen of them were killed outright by the Butcher for Sale. ---Another Farmer, preſently after, had eighteen bitten by them, eight of which were killed on the Spot. A fourth Perſon had eight bitten by them, whereof four died of their Wounds. In ſhort, it was computed, that theſe two Dogs did above twenty Pounds worth of Damage, in leſs than one Week's Time. For theſe Connoiſſeurs, knowing themſelves Tranſgreſſors, came not near any Houſe for three Nights together, but lay out in the Woods of *Studham* till they were ſearch'd after, found and killed. One of theſe

bid the Dog go home to Breakfaſt, and he would do it accordingly; and always finding Victuals ready ſet for him, would eat his Bellyfull, and then very orderly come again to his Flock, though this was at a Mile Diſtance. And, in caſe he miſt his Maſter where he left him, he would then ſit on his Arſe, and howl for his Maſter to hear him; and this he uſually did till his Maſter hallowed, and by his Voice gave the Dog an Item where to find him, which he aſſuredly did with great Joy. This Dog is ſaid to be ſo well taught his Duty, that he would not ſuffer a Sheep of any other Flock to mix with his, nor his to mix with any other: And ſo ſenſible was this Dog, that, it is affirm'd for Truth, his Maſter has ſaid to him,----I am going to Market, and you muſt look after the Sheep at Night to fold them, then lie by the Fold all Night, and in the Morning I will bring you a Penny Loaf----and that this was done.---He was alſo a Dog of Courage, for if any Man offer'd to aſſault his Maſter, he fail'd not to ſeize him. For all which, and for ſeveral other valuable Qualifications that this Dog was endowed with, the Maſter, it is ſaid, refuſed three Guineas for him.

The great Service that a Drover's Dog did, when his Maſter had the Driving of a large Flock of Sheep from the Weſt Country into Hertfordſhire, *&c.*----Mr. *Chriſtopher Brown*, living at ------, is, perhaps, at this Time, 1748, the greateſt Dealer in Sheep of all others that are concern'd for buying Sheep in the Weſt Country, and ſelling them in *Hertfordſhire*, *Buckinghamſhire*, *Bedfordſhire*, *Middleſex*, &c. For this Man has not only the Reputation of a very knowing one, but likewiſe of being a fair Dealer; which has eſtabliſhed his Credit ſo much, that he commonly keeps *Trnig* Market in *Hertfordſhire*, every *Friday*, for many Weeks together, with a great Number of Sheep, and where many of our biggeſt Farmers meet him, that buy a whole Flock at once, on his Word of their Price being reaſonable, and their Bodies ſound. Now this great Dealer and Drover, as he brings Sheep from *Dorſetſhire*, *Wiltſhire*, *Hampſhire*, &c. and drives them into the aforeſaid Counties, is obliged to be ſeveral Days with them on the Road, which renders his Profeſſion a very careful, troubleſome, and hazardous one. But as he is Maſter of a very excellent ſerviceable Dog, theſe ill Incidents are very much leſſened by his Docility, Vigilance, and Diligence. He is a brindle-colour'd Dog, a little ſhaggy, and is very hardy; and is ſo well

well qualify'd, as to drive a large Flock of Sheep along the Road himſelf; for he will ſide well, round well, and ſtop well: And ſo very tractable is this Quadrupede, that when Sheep are driving on the Road, and ſee the Gate of a Field open that they enter, the Dog, who by the ſtrait Paſſage of the Gateway, cannot get quick enough before to ſtop them, would run on the Sheeps Backs a Pole or Perch together, to get forward for heading and turning them, till he brought them again into the Road, and forced them to travel on as they ſhould do. In ſhort, this Dog would bark, or leave off, at the Word of Command; and was otherwiſe ſo compleatly diſciplin'd, that, on Mr. *Brown*'s being bid a Guinea for him, by a great Weſt-Country Farmer, his Anſwer was, that the beſt Score of Sheep he was Maſter of, ſhould not buy him. This ſame Breed of Dogs he, and his Father, has had above forty Years: At firſt they had two Sorts, one ſmooth, and the other ſhaggy; but now they are mixt into one. And as I am here writing in Praiſe of Dogs, I ſhall inſert the Verſes of a moſt ingenious Poet, which have been ſo much admir'd, that they have been reprinted in ſeveral Books: And are as follows, *viz.*

Verſes on a Dog, *as wrote by an ancient Author.*

THE Dog among the Quadrupedes,
For Sport and Faithfulneſs, exceeds
All other Beaſts. He beſt attends
His Maſter's Call, his Houſe defends:
And tho' he's driven away with Spurns,
With wagging Tail he ſtill returns.
When you his Excellence diſplay,
He's ſenſible of what you ſay,
And, in dumb Shew, his Thanks does pay.
He ſwims where'er you take the Ford,
When e'er you ſail, he goes on Board;
With you o'er rugged *Alps* he goes,
And guards you through a croud of Foes.
Still, all the Day, he keeps in View,
Nor is he in the Dark leſs true;
He loves not him that loves not you.
Through all the Windings of the Wood,
He toils to make your Paſtime good.

Runs down for you the nimble Hare,
And it, untore, in's Mouth does bear.
Purſues all Game through Buſh and Brake,
Not for himſelf, but for your Sake.
When you repoſe he couches by,
Or bears his Chain contentedly.
Your Houſes and your Poultry guards,
Drives Thieves and Foxes from your Yards.
In Sleep ſecure your Houſhold ſnore,
He drives all Treach'ry from your Door.
He aſks no dainty Bit or Cup,
Profuſe to keep his Spirits up,
Content your dirty Plate to lick,
A Cruſt to gnaw, or Bone to pick.
Who would not ſuch cheap Servants pleaſe?
Who would not love and harbour theſe?

In Diſpraiſe of two ignorant SHEPHERDS.

How a Shepherd cauſed twenty out of forty Ewes, to caſt their Lambs, by his ignorant Management in breaking his Dog.

THIS was tranſacted within two Miles of my Houſe, where a Farmer lived that hired a Shepherd, who having an unbroke Dog, took a great deal of Pains to break him, and in breaking him, was ſo ſtupendouſly filly, as to harraſs, fright, and run a whole Flock of Sheep about from Place to Place, in learning the Dog to ſide, to round, to ſtop Sheep, *&c.* by which imprudent Action, he cauſed twenty Ewes to caſt their Lambs, out of forty that were kept among Wether Sheep for the Fold Uſe. It is ſuch unſkilful Shepherds as this, that ſpoils a whole Flock; by hunting, throwing Dirt or Stones at ſome, haring and driving the Sheep out of Breath, and almoſt off their Legs; preventing Ewes to take Ram, and making thoſe that are in Lamb to caſt them before their natural Time; ſurfeiting them, or breeding Maggots on their Skin, bringing them under the Scab, black or white Scour, the Redwater, and oftentimes Death itſelf.

How

How a Shepherd's Boy damag'd almoſt a whole Flock of Sheep by his haſty driving them to Fold.----ONE of my Neighbours, a Yeoman of an Hundred a Year Landed Eſtate, in the Year 1744, kept a Boy for a Shepherd, out of Covetouſneſs to ſave Wages, but loſt good Part of his Flock of Sheep by it. For this indiſcreet Boy, being obliged every Night, to drive his Flock from off *Gaddeſden Common*, down a long ſteep Hill to the Field; he with ſome other Boys that uſually attended him as Play-Mates, took Delight to run the Flock down this Hill in ſuch a full Speed, that, by the Time the Sheep came to the Bottom of the Hill, they would blow and pant to that Degree as to be hardly able to ſtand: And thus our wild Shepherd went on, till a neighbouring Farmer, ſeeing ſome of his Sheep among this Flock thus abuſed, he thraſh'd the Youngſter ſo well, as to break him of all ſuch ill-uſing the Sheep; ſo that afterwards they were as leiſurely drove to Fold as any other Farmer's. Hence it is, that a diligent ſkilful Shepherd, in ſome Farms, is valued as the chiefeſt Servant; for it is the real Caſe of a thouſand Farmers, to depend moſtly on their Sheep to dreſs their Land, and return them Wool to pay their Rent; and if theſe fail, many will tell you, they ſhall be undone.

CHAP. III.

Of curing SHEEP *and* LAMBS *wounded by Dogs.*

The Method that this Author took to cure his ten Sheep that were bitten and much wounded by Dogs in one Night, according to the foregoing Account.

THIRTEEN of my Sheep, I have told my Reader, were wounded, and one killed outright in my Fold, by two Dogs in one Night; that I recovered ten, and how I did it, I am here to diſcover.---In the firſt Place, I pour'd a little Oil of Turpentine into each Sheep's Wound, before I applied any ſecond Remedy, becauſe this Sort of Oil is always in a very thin Body, and of a moſt ſearching, healing Nature, therefore will enter into thoſe minute Parts of Wounds where a thicker Conſiſtence cannot.---*Salmon* ſays it cures Wounds of the nervous Parts to a Wonder.---*Quincy* ſays, in punctured Wounds, and ſome particular

Circumſtances of Ulcers alſo, the Surgeons much eſteem and uſe it.----After I had thus uſed the Oil, I boiled Hog's Lard, common Soap, and Horſe Turpentine together, in equal Quantities, and while the Mixture was very hot, I forced as much of it as I could into the Wounds; with this thick Conſiſtence, after a few Repetitions of it, I entirely cured my ten wounded Sheep, and they remained ſound ever after.

That Sheep's Fleſh, no more than Horſe or Hog's Fleſh, will ſuffer by the Application of ſcalding Medicines.----THIS no Author, that ever I read or heard of, has affirm'd, yet I I do; that neither Sheep, Hogs, nor Horſe-fleſh, will ſuffer by the Application of a ſcalding Medicine; no, though it was pour'd near boiling hot into their Wounds, as, I think, I have ſufficiently experienc'd in the aforeſaid, and other Caſes. The Beaſts, I am of Opinion, feel the Scald, but that the Fire don't remain in their Fleſh. And by pouring this ſcalding ſalvy Conſiſtence thus hot into the Sheep's Wounds, it entered in a much thinner Body than if it had been apply'd cold, and penetrated the deeper into them: Nor did I apply any Plaiſter over the Part, for the Salve itſelf proved, not only ſufficient to heal the Wound, but by the Mixture of Turpentine, no Fly dare attack it; which proves this Medicine to be of the moſt excellent Service: For where Flies can ſettle on a Wound in hot Weather, they will ſoon breed Maggots, and ruin the Sheep, if not timely prevented: A Misfortune that too often happens by the Unſkilfulneſs or Negligence of Shepherds, when they let a Sheep be almoſt eaten up by them before they'll ſearch to diſcover this common Ail; but of this more by and by. In the mean Time I have further to obſerve here, that by applying any Salve, Ointment, or other Medicine, to a Sheep's Wound, it allays the Itching of it much more than if applied cold. But as ſome Wounds of Sheep require to be cured by Tents, obſerve the following Account of it, *viz.*

How to cure a Sheep's Wound that requires the Application of a Tent.---THERE are ſome Wounds made ſo deep in the tender Fleſh of a Sheep, by the Penetration of a large Dog's Fangs, or otherwiſe, that neither a Salve, nor any other Medicine, can be ſo properly applied as a Tent for bringing it into a Suppuration, running and healing it: The ſame, when a large Thorn, Stub, or Stake, is taken into the Leg, Foot, or Body of a Sheep; or when, by any other Acci-

dent, a Wound is deeply made. In any of theſe Caſes, firſt pour ſome Spirit, or Oil of Turpentine into the Wound, then cut a bit of fat Bacon in the Shape of a Tent, ſized according to the Bigneſs of the Orifice, and Shape of the Wound, and force the ſame into it; which renew as Diſcretion directs: By this Remedy a Wound may be kept open, and made to digeſt and run till it is cured.

A third Receipt to cure a Sheep's Wound.----As every Perſon that ſtands in Need of a quick and proper Remedy for curing a wounded Sheep, cannot, perhaps, have the laſt ſo ſoon as the following one, I therefore do hereby direct the making a Medicine for the ſame with Tar, boiled up with Hog's Lard, and ſo pour it into a Wound almoſt ſcalding hot: This is a good Medicine. And why Tar may not be made uſe of alone for this Purpoſe, is, becauſe of itſelf, it is of too thick, too hot, and too drying a Nature, to cure a Wound alone with.

Of making the greateſt Advantages of wounded and dead Sheep.

How to make the greateſt Profit of thoſe Sheep that are deſperately wounded, or otherwiſe hurt.

WHEN a Sheep is hurt or wounded very dangerouſly by Dogs, or other Accident, ſo that it ſeems mortal, and the Beaſt like to die, the beſt Way to make the moſt Profit of ſuch a one, is to kill it directly, and if its Meat is fit for the Butcher, to ſell it to him. The ſame, when Sheep are hoved in Clover or Lucerne, or on the Feed of Rapes, as ſometimes many be in one Flock, as it were at once, and the Shepherd judges ſuch paſt Remedy: It is then acting the prudential Part to ſtick ſuch Sheep before they are quite dead, (as I ſhall hereafter be more particular in my Account of) and if the Fleſh is fit for Man's Eating, then to ſend for the Butcher, who will undoubtedly be glad to buy them for his Profit's Sake; or in caſe a Sheep is but juſt kill'd by Dogs, when it is diſcover'd, and the Carcaſs is tolerable Meat, the Country Butcher may be ſent for, and if he finds it fit for his Purpoſe, he may take it and make the moſt of it: For poor People have been glad of ſuch an Opportunity to buy much Meat for a little Money. This Method of making the moſt of a wounded

or

or hurt Sheep, I, and many others follow, and ſometimes loſe little or nothing by ſuch a Sheep's Death.

A Piece of good Huſbandry practiſed in many Places, but moſtly in Vale Countries, by making the greateſt Advantage of a dead Sheep.----THE following and foregoing Pieces of good Huſbandry have eſcaped the Notice of all Authors that have hitherto wrote on Sheep, notwithſtanding the great Conſequence they are of to Owners of wounded, or dead Sheep, to know and practiſe them. I ſhall begin this Account with obſerving what is commonly done in this Reſpect in Vale Countries, becauſe here moſt of the Sheep that die, die of the wet Rot; likewiſe in chiltern Countries, where, if they don't die of the wet Rot, they often die of Hunger, or of the Pelt Rot; although in both, many Sheep die by other Sickneſs; by Wounds from Dogs, by Blows, and by other Accidents. In any of theſe Caſes an Advantage may be made of Neceſſity; and the more, where Sheep die fat by the Rot, or otherwiſe, which often happens, as I ſhall hereafter explain. If a dead Sheep is found before it is tainted too much, it ſhould be directly brought home, and, being at home, it ſhould be ſkin'd and quarter'd: The Skin and Wool of ſuch a Sheep may be ſold from Fourpence to a Shilling, though the beſt Skin of a large Sheep, kill'd by the Butcher, is commonly, at the higheſt Price, worth but eighteen Pence: And as to the four Quarters and Head, they ſhould be firſt broken in Pieces, and boiled in a Copper or Kettle for getting out their Fat; which, as it riſes, ſhould be ſkimm'd off, and put into an earthen glazed Pot: About an Hour's Boiling will be ſufficient for this Purpoſe; and when the Fat is got all out of the Fleſh, it ſhould be melted again over a Fire, then ſtrained through a Cullender, and thus tried and fitted for Sale to the Tallow-Chandler, for whoſe Uſe it may be worth Twopence Halfpenny or Threepence a Pound, to make Candles of alone, or with a Mixture of other Fat. The next Thing is to put the boiled Fleſh and its Liquor to the beſt Advantage, which to do, as the Head and Quarters were, before they were put into the Copper, cut and broke in Pieces, they muſt now be taken out, and put with the Liquor into a Tub, with ſome Bran, Pollard, or Barley-Meal, for being kept as Waſh or Store Food to feed Swine with from Time to Time, and it will prove a very fattening Meat for them. Others thinking to do better, boil Turnips, or Carrots, or Parſnips, or Potatoes, or Peaſe, or Beans, with the

the Fleſh, for making it go the further, and this makes it become a very ſubſtantial Food: But if there be Fat on the Kidneys of ſuch dead Sheep, it ought to be firſt taken out; and if the Sheep has no Fat, the Fleſh alone, perhaps, may be worth boiling. I have known a poor dead Sheep that has been tainted before it was brought home, ſkinned, chopt in Pieces, and boiled in this Manner, for feeding Hogs with it: And though there was little or no Fat on it, yet the Owner thought he acted the good Huſband in ſo doing, as he boiled the Fleſh with Turnips and Bran, for feeding his Hogs with the ſame. I knew another that had a poor Sheep died, partly by Poverty, on a Common, on the 11th Day of *November*, 1741; but, poor as it was, after he had boiled it, he got three Pounds of Fat, which he ſold to the Tallow-Chandler, and then gave the Meat, with a Mixture of Pollard, to his Hogs.

Of the Age of SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

The Age of Sheep; and firſt, of the Wether.----BEFORE it is one Year old, it is called a Lamb or Teg; in the ſecond Year it is called a Sherug, and has two broad Teeth before; in the third Year it has four broad Teeth before, and then called a Sheep; in the fourth Year it has ſix broad Teeth; in the fifth Year it has eight broad Teeth, and then we call it a full-mouth'd Sheep. Secondly, as to an Ewe----The firſt Year it is a Lamb; in the ſecond Year a Thaive, and has two broad Teeth; in the third Year it is a Sheep, and has four broad Teeth; in the fourth Year it has ſix broad Teeth; in the fifth Year it has eight broad Teeth, and then it is called a full-mouth'd Sheep. Or take it thus: ----The firſt Year it is a Wether Lamb; the ſecond Year a two-tooth'd Teg, or Pug; the third Year a Sherug; the fourth Year a ſix-tooth'd Wether; and the fifth Year a full-mouth'd one.----The Ewe Lamb is ſo the firſt Year; the ſecond Year a Ewe Pug or Teg, with two broad Teeth, that they put up about Shearing Time; the third Year it is a Thaive, or four-toothed; the fourth Year it is called a Ewe, and ſix-toothed; the fifth Year a full-mouth'd one. ----After this, none can tell how old a Sheep is while their Teeth remain all in their Head, except by their being worn down. But ſome Sheep loſe one or more in eating Turnips before they be full-mouth'd, and afterwards by Accident,

dent, which may deceive a Buyer, who may think they are loſt by mere Age, when it is not ſo. This is what I ſay: But an ancient Author gives the Age of a Sheep thus: Says he----If you will know the Age of your Sheep, look in his Mouth, and when he is one Shear, he will have two broad Teeth before; when he is two Shear, he will have four broad Teeth before; when he is three, he will have ſix; and when he is four Shear, he will have eight: And after theſe Years his Mouth will begin to break. For touching the Evenneſs and Unevenneſs of the Mouth, it is uncertain, and faileth upon many Occaſions----So their broad Teeth, I ſay, a Sheep puts up ſooner or later, as they are bad or well kept; if kept well, they put them up ſooner, if bad, later.

CHAP. IV.

Of the different Natures and Sizes of SHEEP.

An Introduction into the Accounts of the different Natures and Sizes of Sheep.

THE many Authors that have wrote on Sheep, have, in all their Accounts of this moſt valuable Beaſt, been too ſhort in diſtinguiſhing their ſeveral Natures and Sizes, although this is the main Branch of Knowledge relating to Sheep; for if a Perſon buys not a right Sort in, I don't know how he ſhould ſell a right Sort out. Therefore this, in particular, ought to be nicely wrote on, for the Information of Yeomen, Graziers, Farmers, and others, concern'd in buying, feeding, and ſelling Sheep, as being a Matter of great Importance to many; becauſe on the well-doing of Sheep depends the Living of Thouſands of Farmers; for if theſe fail, many Tenants may be ruin'd, and the Landlords, perhaps, find not Stock enough to pay their Rents: A Caſe that has often happened, eſpecially when a Farmer, through his Ignorance, is impoſed on, in buying in a Stock infected with the Scab, Foot-rot, Scour, or other Diſeaſe; by which he may not only become a very great Loſer by committing ſuch a Miſtake, but ſuch as theſe may infect and ſpoil his other home Sheep; and thereby he

he may bring himſelf under a double Loſs, as I have known done: So buying in a right-ſized Sort of Sheep, is likewiſe Matter of Conſequence; for that according to the Nature of the Ground, ſo ſhould the Size of the Sheep be, as I ſhall further explain in my following Accounts of them. But, in the firſt Place, I ſhall, for my Reader's better Information, begin with inſerting the Words of *Adam Speed*, a very ancient Author; and thereby ſhew his Sentiments of the different Natures of Sheep.

Adam Speed's *Deſcription of Sheep that are bred in different Countries.*----In *Herefordſhire* (ſays he) eſpecially about *Lempſter*, and on thoſe famous Hills called *Cotſwold Hills*, Sheep are fed that produce a ſingular good Wool, which, for Fineneſs, comes very near to that of *Spain*; for from it, a Thread may be drawn as fine as Silk: And they are much the ſame in *Worceſterſhire*, though they are black-faced, ſmall-bon'd, and bear but little Burthen.----*Buckinghamſhire*, *Warwickſhire*, *Northamptonſhire*, and *Leiceſterſhire*, produce Sheep of a large Bone and good Shape, likewiſe the deepeſt Staple----*Lincolnſhire*, eſpecially in the Salt Marſhes and fenny Grounds, produces Sheep of the largeſt Sort, but not the beſt Wool; for their Legs and Bellies, though long, are for the moſt Part bare or naked---*Yorkſhire*, and Northward to the Borders of *Scotland*, produces luſty Sheep, of big Bone, but then their Wool is not ſo advantageous, as being rough and hairy.-----In *Wales*, the Sheep for the moſt Part are ſmall, and their Wool little, but are the ſweeteſt Mutton.----There are (continues he) an excellent Breed of Sheep produced on *Banſtead Downs* in *Surry*.----*Kent*, eſpecially in *Rumney Marſh*, produces abundance of Sheep, but the Beginners of them were brought out of other Countries to raiſe the Stock; however, the Feed much increaſes them in Fleſh and Wool; and indeed, *England*, for the Goodneſs of Sheep, is able to vie with any Nation under Heaven. So far *Adam Speed*, who has here wrote ſo well, that moſt, or all ſucceeding Authors on Sheep, have, with a few Variations, copied after him; and therefore I ſhall be much fuller, and much more particular in my Deſcription of Sheep bred in different Counties: And firſt, I ſhall begin with

The good Properties of the Weſt-Country Sheep.----THIS Sort of Sheep, of all others in *England*, we in *Hertfordſhire*, *Buckinghamſhire*, *Bedfordſhire*, and *Middleſex*, account the very beſt, for Soundneſs of Body, for living on our ſhort

Graſs, for folding to dreſs our Land, for fatting on Turnips, for ſuckling Houſe and Graſs Lambs, for driving to and from our Fields and Commons, for not ſtraying, and for yielding the very beſt Staple of Wool: It is for theſe valuable good Properties that theſe Sort of Sheep are chiefly bought up for the Uſe and Service of Farmers living in the aforeſaid Counties; and which are the Means of employing many Perſons, whom we call Sheep Jobbers, to buy great Numbers of them, in *Dorſetſhire*, *Wiltſhire*, and *Hampſhire*, and bring them to particular Farmers, and into our Markets for Sale; a chief one of which, is that of *Tring*, a Market Town, lying about thirty Miles from *London*, and three from *Gaddeſden*; where, on every *Friday* during the Spring Seaſon, there generally is great Choice of the larger and ſmaller Sort of horned Weſtern Sheep, that have all white Faces, white and ſhort Legs, broad Loins, and fine curled cloſe Wools: The ſmalleſt Sort of them ſuits the Conveniency beſt of thoſe Farmers who have the ſhorteſt Bite of Graſs, and the largeſt for thoſe that have more: But the ſmaller Sort is moſtly coveted by thoſe Farmers that feed them on, and fold them from Commons: The ſame for feeding and fatting them on Turnips, for that theſe ſmaller Sort, with their thin Lips and narrow Mouths, will not only bite and live on the ſhorteſt Graſs, but will alſo ſcoop deeper into a Turnip than a larger one can; and therefore will feed and fat ſooner than larger Sheep that have thicker Lips and broader Mouths. It is theſe ſmaller Sort of Weſt Country Sheep, when fatted, that furniſhes a Butcher with thoſe ſizeable Joints of Mutton, that beſt anſwer the Service of a private Family, who find their Conveniency beſt anſwered in having the Pleaſure to enjoy a hot Joint of Meat every Day at their Table; when a larger Joint would incommode them by more than one Means. Theſe excellent Weſtern Sheep are many of them bought up in *March* and *April*, becauſe our Rye, our Turnips, and our Cole or Rape, in *Hertfordſhire* particularly, generally hold out to feed them in theſe two Months, which gives us the greater Opportunity to buy them cheaper now, than we can afterwards when there is Plenty of Graſs. And as, in *Hertfordſhire*, moſt of our Fields lie incloſed, theſe Weſtern Sheep that are of the horned Sort, are more agreeable to us, than the poled or unhorned Sort, becauſe theſe horned Sort cannot break through Hedges like them, nor are they ſo inclin'd to do it, as the hornleſs Sort are; by which

Means

Means they preſerve their Wool on their Backs, when the others loſe much of it. Weſt-Country Sheep, that weigh about eight Stone when they are fat, I call the ſmaller Sort; thoſe that weigh about ten Stone, when they are fat, I call the larger Sort. Weſt Country-Sheep are certainly the moſt tender Dams of their Young; and the *Dorſetſhire* Sort exceeds for frequently bringing Twin Lambs, which is a conſiderable Advantage to both the Grazier, the Houſe-ſuckling Farmer, and indeed, to all others, concern'd in breeding, and making a Profit by Lambs: But this Sort of Advantage is moſtly on the Side of thoſe that ſuckle Houſe-Lambs, as I intend by and by to give a very particular Account of. Wherefore thoſe Farmers that live in *Hertfordſhire*, *Buckinghamſhire*, *Bedfordſhire*, *Middleſex*, *Surry*, and *Kent*, and would be Maſters of a true Breed of Sheep, for folding, fatting, and breeding Lambs, cannot have a better Sort.

The Nature and Service of Hertfordſhire-*bred Sheep.*---- THIS Sheep is generally of a larger Size than the Weſt-Country Sheep, yet not ſo large as the *Oxfordſhire*, *Leiceſterſhire*, or *Lincolnſhire* Breed. It is a horned Sheep that has black Spots on its Face and Legs, or what we call ſpeckled; is a hardy profitable Sheep, but not quite ſo well qualify'd to get a Living on a very ſhort Bite of Graſs on Commons, as the ſmaller Weſt-Country Sheep are; nor is their Wool ſo good; therefore they are moſtly kept by thoſe Farmers who have not the Conveniency of feeding Sheep on Commons, but are forced, for this Reaſon, to keep them always within Ground; and where they do this, their Profit lies in breeding and fatting Lambs on Clover or Reygraſs, or Trefoil, and on their fallow Grounds. After their Lambs are here fatted and ſold off, they begin to fold their Ewes. Some of theſe Graſs-fatted Lambs are many of them bought by the Butcher in *May*; moſt of them go off by *Midſummer*, and then our Farmers begin to fold the Ewes in fair Weather, every Night till near *Allhallontide*. Theſe *Hertfordſhire*-bred Sheep, when thoroughly fatted, may weigh, in neat Mutton, about ſixteen Stone, at eight Pounds Weight to the Stone.

The Nature and Service of the Oxfordſhire, Leiceſterſhire, *and the* Lincolnſhire *Sheep.*----OXFORDSHIRE breeds many pole, hornleſs Sheep, that are larger-carcaſs'd than either the Weſt-Country or *Hertfordſhire* Sheep. There are likewiſe many of theſe pole Sheep brought up, fatted for Sale, to the great *Smithfield London*-Market, out of *Leiceſter-*

ſhire, and *Lincolnſhire*, and *Cambridgeſhire*, that are the biggeſt Sheep in *England*, but always cut a very coarſe hairy Wool; in *Lincolnſhire* eſpecially, in their marſhy and fenny Lands, they breed the longeſt-legg'd, and largeſt-carcaſs'd Sheep of all others; and although their Legs and Bellies are for the moſt Part bare of Wool, yet their Fleeces carry more Wool on them than any Sheep whatſoever; for their Pelts, when well furniſh'd with Wool, and ſold to the Butcher a little before Sheering Time, fetch two Shillings, or two Shillings and Sixpence a-piece; and when fatted, ſome of their Carcaſſes will weigh------Stone: But their Meat is much coarſer-grain'd than that of ſmaller Sheep; and their Joints too large for ſmall Families eating while hot. Theſe great ones are alſo unfit for folding Land with, becauſe they would be too long filling their Bellies on a ſhort Bite of Graſs; and becauſe their heavy Carcaſſes cannot bear frequent Driving to and from the Field, without ſuffering much Damage, yet are the moſt profitable Sort of all others, for thoſe Graziers, who occupy rich Vale Grounds; for here they have nothing more to do than to feed, lie down, and fat on their fertile Earth; and this they generally do with great Expedition, becauſe their Graſs is of ſuch a fattening Nature, that it will feed and fat an Ox, when our beſt Meadows and Paſtures cannot do it in our drier, higher, chiltern Country: And although they may, by long Droughts, or by ſtocking their Vale Ground with too many Cattle, be, in ſome Meaſure, deprived of a long Bite of Graſs; yet, when it is at the ſhorteſt, it will ſupport and keep not only large Sheep, but even Oxen from falling away in their Fleſh, when our hilly Graſs would ſtarve them: Which valuable Quality, I impute to the rich marly Quality of their Surface Stratum Earth, as it muſt be impregnated with more nitrous Salt and Sulphur, than our hilly Earth is, becauſe their Land lies near the warm Springs, and low enough to be much out of the Power of being greatly hurt by the Chills of cold Winds; when our hilly, high, expoſed Graſs Grounds, are ſituated ſo far from Springs, that they are more hungry, more cold, and leſs fertile than theirs. It is theſe large pole Sheep that are the more beneficial to Graziers, as they fat the ſooner for having no Horns, becauſe the Nouriſhment that ſhould go to the Horns is employed in fatting the Carcaſs. Not but there are great Numbers of ſmall pole Sheep as well as great ones; and many ſuch are kept both by Hill and Vale Farmers, for folding

folding their Ground to a good Advantage: And indeed they are the very beſt Sort of all others, for getting a Living beyond moſt Sheep; and for Breeding, Suckling, and Folding, were it not for one grand ill Quality that moſt of them are poſſeſs'd with; and that is, by their being exceeding prone to leap over Stiles, Hurdles, and even low Gates; and by their breaking into, and getting through Hedges, ſometimes to a Farmer's great Damage, becauſe ſuch Sheep are apt to learn others of the horned Sort to do the like, and thus cauſe a whole Flock to get into, and ruin a whole Field of Corn in a few Hours Time: For a pole Sheep can eaſily make the firſt Gap in a Hedge, when a horned Sheep cannot, and thereby encourage others to follow. Hence it is that ſome of my Neighbours, as well as myſelf, who keep ſome of theſe ſmaller Sort of pole Sheep for the Sake of their thriving better than horned Sheep, and for their carefully looking after their good Lambs, are ſometimes forced to couple ſome of the more ſtraggling ones, to prevent their being ſuch Leaders to others; for their ſtraggling is a more than ordinary dangerous Fault, becauſe it not only may be the Cauſe of a whole Flock breaking out of a Field, but likewiſe to cauſe Ewes in Lamb to caſt them. And ſo apt are theſe pole Sheep to break out of a Field, that if a Man ſtands but twenty Poles or Perches off them, ſome of them will break through a Hedge; ſo that it is a difficult Thing to confine theſe hornleſs Sheep within Bounds, unleſs a Shepherd is continually over-ſeeing them; therefore are unfit to be kept by any Farmer who occupies incloſed Fields, and keeps no Shepherd. But to return to the large Sheep: I have further to add, that a large Sheep will not rot ſo ſoon as a ſmaller Sheep, and therefore ſome of the foreſighted Vale Farmers refuſe to keep the *Welch*, or other ſmall Sheep. It's true, that when a ſmall Sheep is loſt by the Rot, the Loſs is not ſo great as when a larger one dies by it: But conſidering that a ſmall Sheep rots ſooner than a large one, the latter is preferr'd for being kept as Store, as well as for fatting Sheep. But when I mention large Sheep on theſe Accounts, I would not be underſtood to recommend the largeſt pole, or the largeſt horned Sheep for the Vale Fold: No, the Sort I here mean is, that between the ſmall *Welch*, and the largeſt *Lincolnſhire* Breed.

The Nature and Service of Welch *and* Scotch *Sheep.*---- I AM now come to write on the hardieſt Sheep that are for living in a cold Country, and any where elſe, on that ſhort Bite

Bite of Graſs, where a large Sheep would pine and ſtarve, becauſe theſe Sort generally come from mountainous Feedings, therefore no Sheep will live better on Downs and Commons than theſe; and for theſe Reaſons they are brought up in great Numbers out of *Scotland* and *Wales*, into the Southern Parts of *England* for Sale, where they are bought by ſome Farmers; for theſe are not the Choice of many, becauſe they are apt to ſtraggle and run away if there be no Shepherd with them, and many of them to be ſurfeited and ſubject to the Scab, and ſtunted by long Drifts, which diſcourages moſt of our *Hertfordſhire* and *Buckinghamſhire* Farmers from buying them; yet, for ſome good Qualities that belong to them, they are preferr'd by others, as their being a ſmall, ſhort, knotty Sheep, that come from the pooreſt Living, and thrive and fat preſently for the Butcher when they are fed in our Southern Country on a full Bite of Graſs: And if they are fed on the excellent Lady-Finger, and two other Sorts of natural Graſſes that ſhould grow together, by ſowing their neat Seeds free of all Weeds and other Graſſes, they will become the ſweeteſt of Mutton, particularly for a private Family's Uſes, who delight to eat the leaſt and fineſt Sort, which ſome, I know, ſo eſteem, that they'll eat it near as ſoon as Veniſon; and accordingly give a Butcher his own Price, when they can be aſſured the Mutton is young and ſweet; for, by being thus fed on a delicate Graſs, it may be altogether as good as that famous and beſt Sort, fed on *Banſtead Downs* in *Surry*. It is true, as I have juſt obſerved. that when, by the Inclemency of Weather, the Graſs of Vale Grounds is corrupted and tainted, theſe ſmall ſhort-bodied Sheep, as I ſaid, are more apt to rot than larger Sheep; yet even this grand Danger may eaſily be made a trifling one, where my infallible cheap Receipt to prevent the Red-Water or Rot in Sheep is known and duly applied; for it is chiefly on this Account that many refuſe to buy them, as being ignorant how to prevent theſe Maladies; if they were not, I know that Thouſands of them would be kept in Vales where they are not, not only for their convenient living on a little Meat, but alſo for their carrying Dung into a Fold over their poachy, wet, dirty Land, without ſinking ſo deep into it, as a bigger heavier Sheep muſt; and for the leſs Loſs that a Farmer may ſuſtain, if they die by the Red-Water, Rot, or other Accident: Which leads me to publiſh the good Conduct of *J*----- *B*------, Eſq; who, having a true Notion of the Value

Value of *Welch* Sheep, took the following cheap Method to come by them, *viz.*

The Notion that a Gentleman entertain'd of Benefits accruing by keeping and fatting Welch *Sheep, and how he ſent his Bailiff into* Wales *and* Shropſhire, *for buying a Flock of them.*----THIS Gentleman, in *February*, 1746-7, ſent and invited me to his Seat, ſituated in a fine Park, on a dry high Ground, which gave it a delightful Proſpect; and being a Perſon of Penetration, a Studier of Improvements, and an Encourager of Arts and Sciences, fell in with a right Notion of laying out Money, in purchaſing a Parcel of *Welch* Sheep, for the ſole Uſe of his own large Family; becauſe he knew where to buy them ſound, cheap, and of an agreeable Size, for feeding and fatting them on a Farm that had lately fell into his Hands, by the ill Management of a Tenant: Accordingly he ſent his Bailiff into *Wales* to buy him a Flock there, but when he came here, it happened to be a little before Sheering Time, when they were ſo indifferent of ſelling them, that he would not give them their Price, and came home without any, becauſe here they ſet too great a Price on their Wool. However, while he was there, he was inform'd of the right Place and Time to buy them cheap, and that was at *Biſhop-Caſtle* Fair in *Shropſhire*, on the ---- Day of -----: And to this Fair he was afterwards ſent, where he met with great Choice, and bought a Flock of pretty ſizeable Sheep, that were full-mouthed, for between five and ſix Shillings a-piece; which being brought home and kept in good Feed, were fatted, and killed for this Gentleman's Family Uſes all the Year, as his Occaſions required. And thus he was always ſure to eat a delicate, ſweet, ſound Piece of Mutton, in the cheapeſt and beſt Manner, free and clear of all over-heated, ſurfeited, unſound Fleſh; which, by too haſty, and too long Drivings, fall to many Butchers Lot to kill. And ſo pleaſed was this Gentleman with this his new Way of furniſhing himſelf with the beſt of Mutton, that, when I was at his Seat, I was told he deſign'd to leſſen the Number of his Deer, and increaſe the Number of his *Welch* Sheep, by grazing them in his Park; and that they might be fed and fatted here on the beſt Graſs, for producing the ſweeteſt of Mutton, I furniſh'd him with ſuch natural Graſs Seeds as would truly do it, by ſowing them on, and amending his old Sward, according to thoſe particular Directions I gave him. And in this Gentleman's Ground it was that theſe *Welch* Sheep were

were kept ſafe from ſtraggling, not only in his Park, but alſo in his incloſed Fields, and this without the conſtant Attendance of a Shepherd; becauſe they had always a Bellyfull of Meat allowed them, and his Hedges duly kept up in Repair, through which, as they were of the horned Sort, they could not paſs.

How much the Lady Seabright *fancied to keep and fat* Welch *Sheep, for her own and her Family's eating.*---THIS Lady was Wife to Sir *Edward Seabright*, of *Beechwood*, in the County of *Hertford*, and was ſuch an Admirer of Mutton from *Welch* fatted Sheep, that ſhe would eat no other Mutton: And that ſhe might the ſurer and better enjoy her Fancy, ſhe has kept ſixty at a Time of them.

Welch *Sheep brought into* Eſſex *and elſewhere, for being ſold to Marſh Graziers and others.*---GREAT Numbers of theſe *Welch* Sheep are brought every Year into *Eſſex*, ſome without, and ſome with Lambs by their Sides, for expoſing them to Sale to Plow-Farmers and Graziers; the latter of which Sort, buy them chiefly to fat in the Salt Marſhes of this County, for here there are many thouſand Acres of this Sort of Land, that feed and keep Sheep ſound with the greateſt Expedition. And as they are here ſafely confined by their large watery Ditches, they are prevented ſtraying, and thus preſently made fat; for where theſe Sort can make their Eſcape out of incloſed Grounds, ſome have ſtrayed to their being quite loſt, as the following Story makes out.

An Account of a black Welch *Sheep, that ſtrayed out of* Hertfordſhire *into* Wales.---THERE is a Story current in our Country, of a black *Welch* Sheep that had a Face ſtreaked like that of a Badger's; and being brought up, among others, into *Hertfordſhire* for Sale, it was bought by a Farmer, who ſoon loſt it; for it was afterwards proved that it returned home into *Wales*, becauſe it was brought up in a *Welch* Flock a ſecond time, and returned as before: That being brought up a third Time and ſold, it was then diſcovered, and proved to be the very ſame Sheep that had been ſo often ſold and bought, to the Aſtoniſhment of many.

Turkey *Sheep.*---THE *Turkey* Sheep is of the large heavy Sort, and the more ſo, becauſe their broad Tails are of a conſiderable Weight. It is reported, that one of their Tails has weighed fourteen Pounds and a half, and that the whole Sheep was ſold for three Pounds. I have heard of a Gentleman, that lives within twenty Miles of *London*, who keeps

about thirty *Turkiſh* Ewes, and a *Turkiſh* Ram; that the Ewes were all poled ones, but the Ram was a horned Sheep. All of them had broad Tails, with white Fleeces, ſpeckled with black Spots, and mottled like a Leopard; but their Wool of a very coarſe Nature, for it is long, and, by ſome, ſaid to be the worſe for their coupling with Goats, which makes it ſtill more hairy.---A Gentleman in *Hertfordſhire* kept three or four of theſe *Turkey* Sheep, and when they were obſerved going to Ram, he had their Tails ſewed up, for one of their Tails was ſo broad and heavy, that it weighed eight Pounds; and one of their Lambs, at Sheering-time, weighed ſixteen Stone alive. This ſame Gentleman was very curious in collecting the largeſt Sort of Beaſts. He ſold two *Hertfordſhire*-bred Ram-Lambs for forty Shillings a-piece.

The Rumney Marſh *Sheep*.---THIS Marſh has thoſe valuable Qualities in it, that I never knew any other by Sight, nor Character, endowed with the like. Some think it was formerly a Foreſt, becauſe Trees have been found cover'd in it, but deſtroyed by the breaking in of the Sea, and ſince recover'd from it; is twenty Miles in Length, reaching from near *Hythe* in *Kent*, to *Rye*, and beyond it in *Suſſex*; in Breadth, ten Miles, from *Appledore* to *Rumney*. Its Soil is compounded of Sand, Gravel, and Marl; 'tis ſituated about ſixty Miles in *Kent* from *London*, and lies lower than the Sea at high Water Mark, which obliges the Proprietors of the Marſh to be at great Charge to defend it againſt the breaking in of the Sea-Water, as it often has done, moſtly about *Dim-Church*. But now they are ſo artful and diligent, that, of late Years, they have received very little Damage. And although this Marſh lies very low indeed, yet the Ground is of ſuch a Nature, that when it receives a Shower of Rain, it preſently diſcharges it; and is ſo fertile, that it maintains more Sheep and Oxen than, perhaps, ten times this Quantity of Ground would do of Upland Meadow. Here they keep moſt Wether Sheep; and as for their Ewes, the Lambs they wean from them; they fold on the Hills, and next Spring bring them into the Marſh to fat; for here Sheep and Lambs are not long feeding and fatting for the Butcher, although they were ſtunted by Poverty not long before: And ſo extraordinary rich is this grazing Ground, that it not only produces ſweet Mutton to great Reputation, but thoſe Sheep alſo of a large Sort, ſome weighing thirty Pounds a Quarter, and carry

on them a good cloſe-curled Wool, but not ſo good as ſome of the Weſt-Country Sheep. They never rot here, unleſs it be by ſome extraordinary Accident; for when the Vales of *England* rot their Sheep, theſe Marſh Graziers get the moſt Money. One of theſe Gentlemen Graziers that lives at *Tenterden*, a Mayor Town near this Marſh, told me there, he would, by no Means, buy my Book, becauſe I gave Receipts to prevent the Rot. When Mutton ſells for Threepence *per* Pound, it is ſaid theſe Graziers live well; and ſo it's a Sign, if fine-built Houſes will ſhew it, for here is an uncommon Sight of them.

The Account a certain Shepherd gives of folding and breaking Welch *Sheep*.----A CHILTERN Farmer, who has much open Field Land, belonging to the Farm he rents, bought in a Parcel of *Welch* Sheep to fold, but before he could rightly bring them to good Behaviour, his Shepherd was at abundance of Trouble in breaking them to it; for, as their Bodies were very ſmall, they would get through the Sloats of the Hurdles, or leap over them, and learn others to do the ſame; and by this would get into the green Corn, run away, and could be hardly confined in the Fold; for they were ſo wild, that they would endure much lugging by a Dog before they would yield to Diſcipline: For as theſe, and *Scotch* Sheep are bred and fed at their full Liberty on Mountains, it is contrary to their Nature to be confined. Wherefore they are the leſs fit for Folding, and moſtly ſold, as I have obſerved, into *Kent* and *Eſſex*, to Farmers, for fatting them in their Marſhes; for here, as they are confin'd by deep, large Ditches, and always under a full Belly of Graſs, if they ſtay any where they will here. But of *Welch* Sheep, more in my third and laſt Book, where I ſhall give an Account how a Gentleman kept them among Deer in his Park.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Of Farmers breeding or buying in a right Sort of SHEEP, *for anſwering to their greateſt Profit.*

When, and what Sheep to buy in for a Chiltern Farmer's greateſt Profit.

WHAT I mean by the Word Chiltern is, as the Farmers take it to mean, a hilly, dry Country, conſiſting of Arable Lands and Paſture Grounds, where is ſown artificial Graſſes; as Clover, Trefoil, Reygraſs, Saint-Foyne, Turnips, *&c.* for feeding and fatting Sheep, Lambs, and other Cattle; which are Conveniencies that few Vale Farmers can enjoy. But Dictionary Authors define the Word, as meaning a Country under the Influence of a chill Air. Now ſome of theſe Chiltern Farmers think it the moſt Profit to breed their own Sheep, others of them are of another Mind, and think it moſt their Intereſt to buy in all they feed and fat, in ſuch a Manner, as to have a freſh Stock in every Year to fold and fat; and, by this Means, to have lean or ſtore Sheep come in, and fat ones to go off, ſo as to bring in a conſtant Profit. In this Account therefore, I ſhall confine myſelf to writing on the Practice of a Chiltern Farmer, who buys all, and breeds none. About *Candlemas*, or between that and *Lady-day*, he buys in, either Wether Tegs, with two broad Teeth, or three-year old Sheep, with four broad Teeth: If the firſt Sort, he folds them the two following Summers under a full Bellyful of Meat, that they may feed free of being ſtunted, thrive, and get Fleſh a-pace, even while they are folding; for thus they are under a conſtant Preparation for fatting, by living chiefly in incloſed Grounds, where they have Plenty of Clover, or other artificial or natural Graſs, green Thetches, Turnips, *&c.* Then, after two Summers folding them, the Farmer, in the Month of *Auguſt*, draws out and ſeparates thoſe Wether Sheep from others, that he deſigns to fat on his Turnips, and puts them into his Stubbles and After-Paſtures, there to graze and eat up the Graſs and Weeds; by which they get ſo forward in Fleſh, that they ſoon fat on

Turnips, where they are fed on freſh Parcels every now and then by a careful Shepherd, till they are full fat for ſending and ſelling them at *Smithfield* Market. And as to the ſecond Sort, or four-toothed Sheep, he likewiſe feeds and folds them under a conſtant Bellyful of Meat, inſomuch that they may be juſtly ſaid (if he acts the prudent Manager) to fat, in a ſmall Degree, under ſuch their Feeding and Folding, but does not keep them longer than one Year in all; for, after their Summer Folding, he, according to Cuſtom, feeds them in his Stubbles and Paſtures, and next in his Turnips, till they are full fatted for a *London* Sale. It is true, that moſt folding Sheep go on Commons that lie near incloſed Grounds every Day, but then they do little elſe here, but air, ſtretch, and clean themſelves; for what Feed they get here is next to nothing. becauſe they fill their Bellies ſo well in the Incloſures.

How either a Chiltern, or a Vale Farmer, may come by the beſt Breed of Sheep.----THERE are no Sheep better to breed for anſwering the two profitable Ends of the Fold and the Butcher, than the Weſt-Country and the *Hertfordſhire* horned Sheep, becauſe they are generally of a right Size, the ſoundeſt of Sheep, are hardy Breeders, tender Dams, and yield a valuable Wool: A right Choice of theſe very much concerns thoſe Farmers in particular, who keep Ewes within Ground for breeding and ſuckling Graſs-Lambs, and folding them after their Lambs are ſold to the Butcher: And the ſame a Vale Farmer, that keeps Ewes for Breeding and Folding; for which Purpoſe a Ewe of two Years old, that is in Lamb the firſt Time, is the right Sort. And why I recommend theſe two Sorts of Sheep, in Refuſal of all others, is, becauſe they commonly come off ſound Layers of Ground; the Weſt-Country Sheep from off their high dry Grounds or Downs; and the *Hertfordſhire* from off incloſed, gravelly, chalky, ſandy, and loamy Soils, and off Commons of the ſame Nature. And becauſe they are not ſo apt to ſtray away, like the *Engliſh* pole, or the *Welch* or *Scotch* Sheep, a Breed from ſuch Sheep, by a right Ram, may ſtock a Farmer with a true-bred profitable Sort; and this the ſooner, if the Ewes bring him Twin Lambs, as many of theſe are apt to do. But avoid, as much as you can, the breeding of Sheep by Vale Ewes, where they are ſuſpected to come off rotten Ground.

The Marks of a right Weſtern and Hertfordſhire *Ewe, for bringing the beſt Breed of Sheep.*----CHUSE a Ewe with wide

wide Shoulders, broad Loins, deep-bodied, ſhort-legg'd, handſome-headed, with Horns not too big; the Weſt-Country Ewe with a white Face, and white Legs, and the *Hertfordſhire* Ewe with a ſpeckled Face: Of either be ſure ſhe is a good-coated one, I mean, that her Wool has a full white Curl; for there is more in this than moſt Perſons are aware of.

The Benefits of having a cloſe-wool'd Breed of Sheep.----- A CLOSE-wool'd Sheep is not in that Danger of ſuffering by the Pelt-Rot nor Red-Water, as the ſhaggy looſe-wool'd one is; becauſe when a Sheep has ſuch a cloſe-curl'd Fleece on its Back, the Rain cannot make that Lodgment in it as it does in a looſe-wool'd Sheep; nor can the cold Winds have that Power to enter and chill the Body of the former, as it can the latter. A cloſe-curl'd woolly Sheep, after a Shower of Rain, upon ſhaking its Body, will diſcharge much of it, when a looſe-wool'd one receives and retains it. This is an Item of the greater Conſequence, becauſe as the Ewe and the Ram is, ſo will the Breed be; and an Error in the Beginning or Foundation of a Thing is of the worſer Nature, as it may have its Effects on the Breed for a long Time after. And I believe I may affirm it for a Truth, that Thouſands of Sheep have been loſt by Means of the Chill of Rains and cold Winds, particularly after they have been ſhorn; becauſe their Skin or Pelt, at that Time, is moſt expoſed to receive and lodge them, as it has loſt its woolly-covering Protection; for the Skin of this Beaſt is the moſt ſpungy, and the moſt porous of all other Skins whatſoever. And hence it is, that Rains and Winds have ſuch a ready Acceſs to enter into, and corrupt the Blood of this moſt excellent Creature, which brings it under Sickneſs or the fatal Rot: But more of this, when I write on Wool.

A Method taken by ſome of the Hertfordſhire *Farmers to come by a Breed of a right Sort of Sheep.*----To make this the more plain, I have, in the firſt Place, to ſay, that, in many Parts of *Middleſex* and *Hertfordſhire*, there are, I believe, more Houſe-Lambs ſuckled and fatted, than in all *England* beſides: And, for this Purpoſe, the ſuckling Farmer is very curious in purchaſing the very beſt *Dorſetſhire*, and other Sorts of Weſt-Country Ewes; as knowing that, upon this, a chief Part of his Profit depends, in order for his having thoſe Lambs that will ſell beſt; and theſe Ewes are thoſe that are rightly colour'd-wool'd and ſhaped: For

which Reaſons, the ſuckling Farmer is tempted to give the largeſt Price, that he may have Ewes with theſe good Properties, and bring him Twin Lambs. Now theſe choice Ewes, after they have bred and ſuckled Houſe Lambs for about --- Years, are generally ſo worn out by conſtant Breeding and Suckling, that they ſell them off to make Room for younger and freſher Parcels of Ewes; and, in order to it, they drive theſe old ones to Fairs and Markets: Now it is theſe old Suckling Ewes, that ſome of our nice *Hertfordſhire* Farmers, make it their Buſineſs to buy, for breeding a Lamb or two out of each of them, in order to come by the beſt Breed of Sheep; for as theſe Ewes were the cull'd ones of Flocks, they are thoſe that exceed others in Goodneſs. Again, as theſe old Suckling Ewes are advanced in Age, they have the largeſt Bones and Sinews, far beyond a very young Sheep; and therefore the more capable of bringing ſtrong Lambs. I have bred the beſt Lambs from my oldeſt Sheep; and theſe Suckling Ewes are ſeldom ſo old, at their ſelling off, but that they will breed once, twice, or more: But all Farmers that buy theſe Sorts, ſhould take this Caution with them, which is, that they muſt not expect theſe Sort of Suckling Ewes to feed on a Common, or in any open Field where they can ſtray away, without the cloſe Attendance of a Shepherd and his Dog; becauſe, as they have been always uſed to feed, and been confined in full Feed, within incloſed Grounds, they will not ſtay on Commons, or any where elſe, where they can ſtray from: For that theſe are an old cunning Sort, that will find out the beſt Living if they can come by it, and ſhift where a young Sheep cannot, therefore will bring up her Lambs in the beſt Order; and after ſhe has ſo done, ſhe may be fatted, and ſold to the Butcher for more than her prime Coſt. But for further illuſtrating this Account, I ſhall inſert the Words of *Adam Speed*, an ancient Author, relating ſomewhat to this Subject; who begins his Paragraph thus----*What is to be obſerved in the Choice of Sheep.* Of Sheep (ſays he) there are ſundry Breeds, according to the Country they are bred in, and the Paſtures they feed on. The rich Champaign Country produces a large Breed; and a cliffy, thoſe of a reaſonable Stature; the wild and mountainous Ground a ſmall and weariſh Sheep. To have Succeſs in Dealing (ſays he) is to procure ſound Sheep, and to do this, know well from what Parts you have them: Be diligent to enquire, whether there be any infected in thoſe Quarters, and

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of the Ground they feed on, with the Manner of their Feeding and Ordering, that nothing may differ in it; or if any thing be alter'd, it may be for the better. As for the Obſervation of the Ground where they feed, the red Soil is held the beſt; next to that, the duſkiſh inclining to red; and that which is duſkiſh and whitiſh is little to be regarded, as not fit for the Improvement of Sheep. And for chuſing breeding Ewes, take, ſays he, theſe Directions, *viz.*---The beſt Time to chuſe them for the Fold is at two Years old, and not exceeding three: And as for knowing the Age, take Notice, that the firſt Year ſhe will have two broad Teeth before; at two, four broad Teeth; at three, ſix; at four, eight, and then the Mouth begins to break, and her Teeth grow ſhort, and ſtand out of Order. Obſerve that ſhe has a deep Belly, white and ſhining; Wool ſoft and plyable; a long Neck, large Dugs, ſmooth Horns, large Back, and gold-colour'd ſhining Eyes; long and lean Legs, a long Tail, and well cover'd with Wool.----Thus far the ancient Author----But I ſay further, that I had an old Ewe, whoſe Teeth were all worn out and gone, except her Grinders, which brought me a good Lamb that I fatted and ſold off to the Butcher; but I loſt this Ewe with one other, as they were fatting in a Place by themſelves, by two Dogs that kill'd them, in the Year 1747. And there have been many Inſtances of old Ewes breeding and bringing up their Lambs at Graſs, at twelve and thirteen Years of Age, to Profit. However, as to theſe Sort of Ewes that are ſold off from ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, they are ſeldom kept beyond ---- Years old for that Buſineſs; ſo that as old as they are, they are young enough to breed more Lambs.----Some Farmers are of another Mind, and think themſelves moſt in the right, when they buy in prime, young Weſtern Ewes, that are to lamb about *Eaſter*; for that they then have Graſs enough to fat their Lambs off, and ſell them for about half a Guinea a-piece; and if they have Twin Lambs, as many of them have, they'll be double Profit, according to old famous *Tuſſer*'s Rhimes.

Ewes yearly, by Twinning, rich Maſters do make,
The Lambs of ſuch Twinners, for Breeders, go take:
For Twinlings be Twiggers, Increaſe for to bring,
Though ſome for their Twigging, *Peccavi* may ſing.

Which the ingenious Commentator on his Lines explains thus: In ſome Parts of *Norfolk* and *Lincolnſhire*, (ſays he) they keep none but Twinlings, but then it is in rich Land, as Marſh Land and ſuch; and that they may not ſing *Peccavi*, they put the Ewes not to Ram until a Fortnight after *Michaelmas*, ſo that the Lambs fall about the Beginning of *April*, or latter End of *March*; for a Ewe goes twenty Weeks in Lamb, and yeans in the twenty-firſt Week---To which I add, that a Farmer, who has Plenty of Graſs and Corn, ought to buy thoſe Ewes that bring Twin Lambs, which he may do from the Weſt-Country at any Time of the Year; for here they make it Part of their Buſineſs to breed ſuch: I have known ſome of theſe Sort bring four Lambs at a Time. But this I intend further to diſcourſe on, when I write of ſuckling Houſe-Lambs; and here muſt obſerve to my Reader, that where Ewes are kept only to breed for the Fold, then a Farmer had better buy Ewes that are not of the Twin-Breed, becauſe theſe Twin Sorts are not ſo capable of travelling to and from the Fold, as thoſe Ewes are that bring only ſingle Lambs; nor are Twin Ewes ſo fit to get their Living on the ſhort Bite of a Common or other poor Ground, as the Ewe is that brings only one Lamb at a Time.

The ſingular Fancy of a Hertfordſhire *Farmer, for breeding the beſt Sort of Sheep for his Fold, and for the Butcher.*---THIS Farmer was one Mr. *Andrew*, that rented a great Farm near *Great Gaddeſden*, who kept a better Sort of Sheep for many Years than his Neighbours did. And for doing it in the following Manner, at firſt, I ſhall give my Reader his Reaſons, *viz.*----This Farmer formerly kept a horned Ram, and horned Ewes, by which Means he loſt many Lambs, becauſe they were furniſh'd with ſuch large Horns, that ſome of their Lambs had little ones about an Inch long when they fell; for as the Ewes were kept within Ground on full Meat, ſome of their Lambs were ſuch very large overgrown ones, as cauſed the Death of ſeveral of his Ewes. Now to alter this Inconveniency, he ſtock'd himſelf with another Sort; for inſtead of the *Hertfordſhire* Ewes, he bought in ſome of the ſmall Weſtern horned Sort, and put to them a large pole *Leiceſterſhire* Ram; theſe bred him a Sort of Sheep to his Mind, for their Lambs having no Horns at Lambing Time, and being of middle Size, the Ewes lamb'd them eaſily and ſafely: And thus this Farmer came by a right Breed of ſmall ſnail-horned Sheep, that he folded, and afterwards fatted for the Butcher to his deſir'd Profit.

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The great Loſs that a Chiltern Farmer ſuſtain'd by an Error of Judgment, in attempting to breed a Flock of Sheep on a ſmall Parcel of Land.----THIS Fact I know to be true, becauſe I was an Eye-witneſs to great Part of it; and happened thus: A ſmall Farmer being Owner of only three incloſed Fields and an Orchard, containing in all about eight or nine Acres of Land; and having, beſides, a Right to, and Liberty of grazing Cattle on an adjacent unlimited Common, he attempted to get Money by breeding, feeding, and ſelling Sheep with their Lambs. And, in order to it, he bought in, I think, ---- Ewes, which he fed on this Common during the Summer Seaſon: And while this was doing, he plowed and ſowed a Three-acre incloſed Field with Turnip-ſeed; and a Crop of hoed Turnips he got, with which he propoſed to feed his Ewes and their Lambs, in order to ſell them as Couples afterwards, and then to buy in a freſh Stock for doing the like another Year. But ſo it happened, that his chimerical Scheme brought him under a great Loſs, for inſtead of getting Money he loſt a pretty deal; for when he came to feed his Ewes, with their Lambs, on the Turnips, he gave them ſo few at a Time, that ſome of his Ewes died, with their Lambs, by Hunger, and others by Sickneſs, ſo that it was thought he loſt near half his Flock, by thus over-ſtocking his Ground with more Cattle than his Land could well maintain. But this his Infatuation appear'd to be no Wonder to his Neighbours, who knew his Avarice led him to pick Thiſtles, and do ſuch other ſervile Work on *Sundays*, that even many of the worſer Sort of Libertines would have been aſham'd of. He has ſince been on the loſing Side for ſeveral Years, and like to be ſo.

Curing leaping Sheep.--I HAD among my folding Flock of Sheep, ſome of the pole Sort, which are generally Leapers: Two of theſe would frequently jump over my Fold Hurdles; nor could I prevent it, till I clapt Dog-couplings on them.

How an old Farmer kills ſome of his fatting Sheep before he ſells a large Parcel of them, in order to find out their Weight and true Value, for his ſelling them with the better Judgment.----THIS old politick Manager of his Cattle lives near me, and as he keeps a Flock of about three hundred Sheep, he fats every Year part of them in his Turnips. And the better to inform his Judgment, he ſometimes kills one in his Houſe, that he may know their Value, and what to aſk and ſell them for.

CHAP. VI.

Of feeding EWES *and* LAMBS *to Loſs and Profit.*

The Advice of a Father Farmer to his Son, a Farmer, concerning his keeping Ewes and Lambs to Loſs, and directing him how to make a quick Profit of Sheep.

THIS Father was a Farmer, living in the Pariſh of *Giles Chaffon*, in the County of *Bucks*: The Son likewiſe a Farmer in *Hertfordſhire*: Both kept Sheep on ſmall Farms. The Father, as a ſage Senior, counſels his Son to avoid keeping Ewes all the Winter, by telling him it was his Opinion, that a Ewe and her Lamb, being kept all the Winter for ſtore-Sheep, would eat as much Meat as they are worth, therefore adviſed him not to do it, but to buy in full-mouth'd or eight-toothed Wether Sheep, about *May-day*, (for you muſt know both theſe Farmers lived in a chiltern, incloſed Country) for folding them all the Summer to dreſs the plow'd Land, and thereby increaſe the Bulk of his Crops of Grain, Turnips, *&c.* and when his Harveſt is got in, then to give over folding them, and turn them into the Stubble, there to let them feed and lie at their Eaſe, in order to give them an Opportunity to get Fleſh, and make them in a forward Condition to ſell to thoſe great Farmers who buy Sheep about *Allhallontide*, to fat for the Butcher in Turnips, or Rapes, or both, the following Winter. Now one Reaſon why he adviſed his Son to buy in full-mouth'd Wether Sheep, in Refuſal of younger ones, was, becauſe, as he ſaid, theſe full-mouth'd Sort were cheaper than a younger Sort, eſpecially about that Time of Year, when moſt Farmers buy in Tegs and Thaives. A ſecond Reaſon was, That, as theſe full-mouth'd Wether Sheep have been (as they generally are) wintered very hard, by their eating little elſe than Straw, and being folded all the Summer on the ſhort Bite, or Feed, of what Graſs and Weeds they could get on a Common; when they come to enjoy a full Bite of Graſs and Weeds among Stubble, and on the graſs Baulk of incloſed Fields, and have nothing elſe to do but to live and feed eaſy, they will thrive very faſt, and get into ſuch good Order of Fleſh, by *Allhallontide*, that they will then ſell for a ſatisfactory Price, to thoſe Farmers who make it their Buſineſs

to

to ſow large Quantities of Land, with Turnips, or Rapes, or both, for fatting Wether Sheep. In the next Place, I ſhall give ſome Account how a Sheep and Lamb may become ſo chargeable, for a Farmer to keep as Stores, that made this Father Farmer ſay, they will eat more than they are worth. To do this, I will ſuppoſe that the Farmer folded the Ewe in the Summer, if not the Lamb with her; but whether he did one or both, they both ſhould have a better Living than what a Common affords, or elſe the Ewe would want a due Quantity of Milk to maintain her Lamb, and thus both would pine and become lean and ſtunted, or perhaps die in the Winter, or Spring, and thus bring the Owner under a Loſs. But I will ſuppoſe that the Ewe goes on well all the Summer Seaſon, and takes Ram in *Auguſt* or *September*, (the uſual Time for Store Ewes to take Ram,) ſhe then muſt be well kept the major Part of the Winter in good Graſs, in Turnips, or Rapes, and with the beſt of Hay, elſe ſhe cannot breed her Lamb in Perfection. Her laſt Year's Lamb muſt be alſo kept extraordinary well throughout the Winter, on Graſs, or Turnips, or Rapes, and with ſome of the beſt of Hay, elſe it will prove a ſtunted one, and perhaps die for Want. But ſuppoſing both Ewe and Lamb goes on well throughout the whole Winter, yet as both muſt be kept extraordinary well, in Plenty of the beſt Meat, where is the Profit? Or, whether it be not a juſt Query, if the Meat is not worth all the Money the Ewe and Lamb will fetch, if they were to be ſold in the Spring?

An Account of the higheſt Improvement that a certain Gentleman, every Year, makes of his wet, loamy Lands, by ſowing them with Turnips and Rapes, and feeding his Sheep and Lambs with them.------THIS Gentleman, wiſer than ten thouſand others, by reading my Books on Husbandry, *viz.* My twelve monthly ones, intituled, *The Modern Huſbandman*; and perhaps my others, *The Chiltern and Vale Farmer*----- *The Practical Farmer*------My *New Experiments in Husbandry*------My two Books *On the Timber Tree*, &c. was moved to ſend to me for furniſhing him with a three-wheel drill Plough, and a Horſe-break, with it, in the Year 1741. The Plough was to ſow Wheat, or Barley, or Peaſe, or Turnip, or Rape Seed, which it would do. The Horſe-break was to hoe and clean the Spaces or interval Ground between the Drills of Corn; but was too large an Inſtrument to do this between the Drills of Turnips or Rapes, ſo that theſe were all forced to be hoed with hand Hoes. But

it was not long that this Gentleman made uſe of this three-wheel drill Plough, and this Horſe-break, becauſe there has been an Improvement made ſince on theſe two Inſtruments, that greatly exceed them; one of them is a very light four-wheel drill Plough, that is much lighter and much more uſeful than the three-wheel Sort; for the three-wheel drill Plough has only one Hopper for holding a Peck of Seed, but this four-wheel drill Plough has not only a Peck Seed Hopper, but alſo a Buſhel Manure Hopper, that drops out the Manure on the Seed as ſoon as it is ſown in the Drills, and covered by a little light Harrow, about a Foot in Length, that is fixed to the Tail of this four-wheel drill Plough; all which it excellently well performs, in the higheſt Perfection, though drawn either only by one Man before, and puſhed on and guided by another Man behind, or it may be drawn by only a very little Horſe. Nor ought it to be wondered at, that this four-wheel drill Plough with its Peck Seed Hopper, and its Buſhel Manure Hopper, with its little Harrow, is thus work'd by only two Men without a Horſe; for it is a moſt light Inſtrument, eaſily drawn along, elſe two Men could not ſow an Acre and Half of Land with Turnip, or Rape Seed, in Drills, at a Foot aſunder, in one Day, and thus Day after Day, without complaining of their Labour, if they have but a Bottle of ſtrong Ale, or Beer, allowed each of them for drinking at their Work. The Ground being thus ſown with Turnip, or Rape Seed, or both, they are partly hoed by the Horſe-break, and partly by Hand-hoes, and each Turnip and each Rape thereby left to grow at a Foot aſunder: But of this more in my next Work on Husbandry, deſigned to be wrote in twelve monthly Books more, to be intituled---*New Diſcoveries and Improvements in Huſbandry. Each Book to contain five Cuts of new Inſtruments of Huſbandry*------But to return to my Subject, of improving Sheep, and Lambs; I have to ſay, that their Profit moſtly conſiſts in feeding them in the greateſt Plenty of Meat with the leaſt Charge, in the Winter and Spring Seaſon; upon this Account I muſt needs ſay, as an Eye-witneſs, that this Gentleman makes the beſt Proviſion for it, of any Gentleman I ever met with; for when the Turnips (which by this Means are the largeſt of Turnips) are wanted to feed his Sheep and Lambs with, where the Ground lies low and wet, he draws them, carries them to one of his Meadows, and there lets his Sheep and Lambs eat them, without fearing that ſuch drawing and feeding the Turnips from off the Ground they grew on, will much hurt

it,

it, becauſe his arable Land, though a Vale Sort, lies not ſo low as many Vale Lands do, and therefore not ſo ſubject to be damaged by Inundations of Waters as they are, which obliges their Occupiers to plow them always one Way, and thus deprives them of bringing ſuch low Vale Ground into an early fine Tilth for ſowing and enjoying Crops of Turnips, or Rapes. But this Gentleman's Caſe is otherwiſe, for although he draws his Turnips to feed his Sheep with them elſewhere, yet, as he plows his Land a-croſs, and ſows it with Wheat, Barley, Peaſe, Turnips, and Rapes, out of his four-wheel drill Plough, with Manure on them, I am of Opinion he carries on his Huſbandry in the higheſt Perfection. But to be more particular in my Account of this Gentleman's Proceedings, I have further to obſerve, that he keeps two Flocks of Sheep, one of Ewes, and the other of Wethers; the Ewes, for the moſt Part in his incloſed Grounds, and the Wethers on a Common; the firſt Sort to breed and fat Lambs, and the laſt to fold his Land. And that his Sheep may not want a Bellyful of Meat, in the ſnowy Seaſons, and in other hard Weather, he commonly ſows one Drill with Turnip Seed, and the next with Rape Seed; and this he can eaſily do, by leaving a Space of two Feet between each Drill of Turnip Seed; and when all the Field is thus ſown with Turnip Seed, he begins again, and ſows his Rape Seed in Drills, between each Drill of Turnip Seed, till the Field is all ſown with both Sorts of Seed; and when they are all regularly hoed, each Turnip and each Rape will ſtand juſt a Foot aſunder. The Turnips, as I ſaid, he draws firſt, and feeds them on his Meadow Ground, either for maintaining his Store Wether Sheep, in the Winter and Spring Seaſons, againſt folding Time, or to fat them for Market. And as to the Rapes, he lets them be fed, in the Place they grow in by the Ewes, for breeding in them abundance of Milk for fatting their Lambs; which is what he can the more conveniently do, as the Sheep have the more Room to feed on them, by the Turnips being drawn and carried away. But there is alſo another Conveniency attending the Feeding of Rapes in the Place they grow in, and that is this; when they have been eaten down, if the Ewes are ſhifted out of one Field into another, in due Time, the Rapes will grow and ſhoot again for a ſecond Feeding: And how ſerviceable ſuch a ſucculent, fattening Plant is to Sheep and Lambs, every one knows that experiences it; for as its high, branching, large, leafy Head is much taller than Turnips, they are

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more ready to feed Ewes and Lambs with in ſnowy Seaſons, when Turnips are covered and hid by the Snow, which prevents Sheep coming at to feed on them. This is good Huſbandry with a Witneſs, becauſe by thus drilling his Wheat, his Barley, his Peaſe, his Turnips, and his Rapes, this Gentleman makes the greateſt Profit of his Corn, of his Sheep, of his Lambs, and of his Land: For by thus ſowing his Grain in Drills he gets Corn, Turnips, Rapes, and artificial Graſs, on his Ground, every Year, without being confined to the general Practice that is obſerved almoſt throughout *England*, I mean, that of letting Land lie fallow every third Year to ſweeten it, fine it, and kill its Weeds, for ſowing it with Wheat or Barley; but here is no Neceſſity to loſe the Benefit of the Ground every third Year, (though it's a flat, wet Sort) by letting it lie inactive, without the Growth of Grain, or Turnips, or Rapes, or artificial Graſs, or Thetches, becauſe by hoeing the interval Earth with a Horſe-break (that will clean five or ſix Acres in one Day) it is kept in a continual Tilth Order, clear of Weeds, and therefore may be ſown Scores of Years together to the greateſt Profit. Upon all which Accounts I ſay, that where a Gentleman or Farmer has Territory enough, and its Soil is of that Nature as will admit of this four-wheel drill Plough and Horſe-break Operations, this moſt excellent new-invented four-wheel drill Plough may be worth to him its Weight in Silver; both which Inſtruments I ſell and ſend to any Perſon on a proper Order, with Directions for their profitable Uſes. And firſt, as they relate to his Advantage in ſowing Grain, I have to ſay, that this drill Plough ſaves Seed, for that leſs Seed ſows an Acre this Way, than in the broad-caſt or any other Way, and yet returns more than ordinary at Harveſt. Secondly, the ſame may be ſaid of Manure ſown in Drills, out of the four-wheel Plough, which cauſes Wheat and Barley to grow luxuriant, ſtand firm, and ripen ſooner than when they grow in any other Poſture; Peaſe alſo and Thetches, Turnips and Rapes, are thus forced into a moſt fertile and early Growth. Thirdly, as to his Sheep and Lambs; his Turnips and Rapes by thoſe Means never miſs taking, and growing in the rankeſt Order, and conſequently fats his Sheep and Lambs, with the greateſt Expedition. Thus, as the largeſt Crops are to be obtained by this Way of Sowing, and this Way of covering Manure on the Seed in the Drill, there is the more Feed for Cattle, the more Dung, the more Wool, and the more Fleſh; and I may add,

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that in Courſe there is the more Money to be got. It's true, that in ſuch a wet Situation of Ground, both Sheep and Lambs are very ſubject to rot; but this I can eaſily prevent at a very ſmall Expence, though all the Sheep in the Country rot beſides, and even while they are feeding on Turnips, or Rapes, on ſuch low wet Ground, by two ſeveral Ways: One is, by letting a Trough, one or more, ſtand in the Field of Turnips, or Rapes, furniſhed with a compounded dry Meat; the other Way is, by giving each Sheep or Lamb Half a Pint of a Liquor, I ſhall in my third Book give a full Account of, being the ſame Liquor that prevented one of this Gentleman's Flocks from Rotting, that he gave it to, by an undeniable Proof, and for which he well rewarded me; as by his Certificate, hereafter written, may appear.

An Account of a famous whiſtling Hertfordſhire *Shepherd, ſhewing the Advantages of a Shepherd being Maſter of a good Whiſtle.*-----THIS is a Qualification truly neceſſary, for making it a ſerviceable Signal both to a Shepherd's Dog and to the Sheep he looks after: And firſt, as to the Dog; for by a loud ſhrill Whiſtle he may hear and obey his Maſter, and come to him from a conſiderable Diſtance at once. By a loud Whiſtle the Dog is obliged to leave off hunting or driving a ſingle Sheep or Flock, and thus hindered from running Sheep into Surfeit, Scab, and other Maladies; or a Ewe, from being harraſſed till ſhe caſt her Lamb, or damaging her Milk. So when a Dog has Hold of a Sheep's Ear, he is immediately made to let go his Hold by the quick Sound of his Maſter's Whiſtle: Thus alſo in a dark Night a Dog is directed to find out his Maſter by his Whiſtle, when his Maſter cannot find him.

One *John Turney*, a Shepherd, that this Year, 1747, lives with Mr. *John Seers*, a conſiderable Chiltern Farmer, at *Dagnal*, ſome of whoſe Ground from mine is parted only by the *Hempſtead* Road, is Maſter of ſo loud a Whiſtle, that if his large Flock, though ſcattered much about, are at the farther End of a great Field, and he at the contrary End of it, the Sheep, on hearing it, will preſently gather into a roundiſh cloſe Body, and in this Manner march toward the Place where he is. And if they don't readily obey his Whiſtle, he ſends his Dog to fetch them; but when they come voluntarily forward without the Dog, they walk the more leiſurely, and with leſs Diſturbance to their full Bellies; by which Means the Flock is brought to the Fold in right Order, and to the Eaſe and Satisfaction of our Shepherd; for a

Sheep

Sheep is a Creature of quick Hearing, is eaſily affrighted, and preſently ready for Motion, by the noted Whiſtle of a Shepherd, or by the Bark of his Dog. And now I am to tell how this Shepherd performs his loud ſhrill Whiſtle; he does it by bending his four Fingers, and blowing with much Force between them. But there are ſeveral Ways of Whiſtling by the Help of only Fingers; when I was a Boy, I learnt to whiſtle by different Motions of my Fingers, and even with one little Finger alone I could be heard at a great Diſtance. But the eaſieſt, ſureſt, and readieſt Way I always perform'd with my two little Fingers, by laying about an Inch of their Ends on the flat middle Part of my Tongue, ſo that their two Ends touch'd each other, but ſpread wider afterwards; and thus I could whiſtle, in ſo loud a Manner, that few or no artificial made Whiſtles, I think, could exceed mine.

The Deſcription of a good RAM.

How a Farmer may have a right Ram to get the beſt Lambs; with an Account of the particular Marks ſuch a Ram ſhould have.

WITHOUT a good Ram there is little Hopes of breeding the beſt Sheep: This is ſo well known to judicious Farmers, that ſome will give an extraordinary Price for one. A Man that was ſome Years a Farmer in *Lincolnſhire*, ſaid he has known twenty Pounds given for a Ram to breed a right Sort of large Sheep from, and that he knew a Gentleman who made an hundred Pounds of a Ram, and the Rams he got. The Ram we moſt covet in *Hertfordſhire*, is a Weſtern Ram, and we think he is beſt bought in when he has got four broad Teeth, for that then, if he is a good Ram, and kept well, he will laſt a ſerviceable one till he is eight or nine Years old, and be ſufficient to keep with a Flock of forty, fifty, or ſixty Ewes. For which Purpoſe he ſhould be a right mark'd one; that is to ſay, he ſhould be a very cloſe-curl'd, white-wool'd Sheep, broad-loin'd, and wide on the top Part of his Shoulders, white-faced, and white-noſed, white-claw'd, and white-codded, white-bellied, and in ſhort all over white, with a ſtrong large Tail, and with Horns, or better without them: A Ram that anſwers theſe Marks, gives its Owner the greateſt Aſſurance of his getting the beſt Lambs. But an ancient Author ſeems to be more

more particular in his Writing on a Ram than I have been, by ſaying--See his Eyes be brown, his Ears great, his Breaſt, Shoulders, and Buttocks broad, his Stones large, his Tail broad and well covered with Wool; that he be large and long of Body, his Forehead broad, round, and well riſing; his Noſtrils ſtreight and ſhort, with a very ſmall Muzzle; his Horns not extraordinary large, nor ſcaly-rough, though ſome approve of them without Horns, or very little ones, eſpecially in the Southern Parts, accounting the Dodder Sheep the beſt Breeders, becauſe in this Caſe they are not ſo dangerous. The Neck muſt be large and right, bending like an Horſe's; the Legs ſmall, ſhort, and nimble; the Belly deep and well woolled: See that his Tongue be not black, nor ſpeckled; for then, according to the Verſe of an excellent Obſerver of theſe Matters, he will get black and ſpeckled Lambs, which are not good for Rearing or Breed; as he ſays,

And though the Ram in Sight be white as Snow,
If black within his Jaws his Tongue be wrought,
Refuſe him quite; leſt if he leap the Ewe,
He does infeſt the Fold with Colour naught.

The ill Effects of teaching a Ram to be unlucky, and of keeping him on after his miſchievous Tricks are known.--THIS has been partly my own Caſe, as well as it has been that of many others. I bred a Ram from the Weſtern fine Breed, that had a white Face, ſhort Legs, a cloſe-curl'd, white Wool, and all other Marks of a good one, that I could wiſh for of its Size, for it was neither too big nor too little, and was well put together. Now you muſt know I employed rather too young a Shepherd to look after my Flock of folding Sheep, who was ſo ſilly (unknown to me for ſome Time) to teach this Ram to act the miſchievous Part, which to this Youngſter proved a Diverſion: And to bring the Ram to anſwer this, while it was in the Fold among the Flock, he would often teaze it, ſometimes with his Hat in Hand, and ſometimes with a Stick, dodging and pointing at him in ſuch a Manner, that he began to be unlucky at three Years old, when he had four broad Teeth. At laſt, he was grown ſo miſchievous as to run at my Ploughman, or any body elſe that was near him in the Field, if he could not affright him away with ſhaking his Whip or Stick, and ſometimes by rapping it on his Horns, or ſtriking him on his Face with it.

This provoked me to part with him to my Butcher in the Year ------- when he was but five Years old.--------Another Ram of the leſſer Sort was kept by a Farmer, living about four Miles from me, in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, that was likewiſe taught to run and butt People; and ſo bold grew this Creature, that on a *Leighton* Fair Day, when many Perſons were obliged to walk in the Path that leads from *Ivinghoe* to that Town, this Ram put many into a Fright, by aſſaulting them with his peeked Horns, till a Boy undertook to keep him from doing any more Miſchief that Day; for with a Stick and hard Word he could govern him to his Mind, for which Piece of good Service the Boy pick'd up a pretty many Half-pence from the Paſſengers that Day. And what was further of ill Conſequence, this Ram got to be ſuch a Leaper, that he would jump over any Fold or Stile, and thereby teach other Sheep to endeavour the ſame; for none of their Stiles could keep him in the Field: At laſt he grew ſo maſterleſs, that he would come from the Field into the Farm Yard at his Pleaſure; and once when he did it, he purſued a Woman into the very Houſe, and there reign'd Maſter, till a ſuperior Power diſplaced him. Thus this Ram went on, till his ill Behaviour provoked the Farmer to fat and kill him.

CHAP. VII.

Improvements of EWES *and their* LAMBS.

The Conveniency and Inconveniency of keeping a Flock of Ewe Sheep.

AS to the keeping a Flock of Ewe Sheep, I know of but few that do it in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, where moſt of their Ground lies in common Fields, becauſe here they can't hope to farm well without the Aſſiſtance of the Fold, for which a Ewe Flock is ſomewhat improper; ſince it is well known, that Ewes cannot bear a long Drift, nor live with ſo little Meat, when in Lamb, as a Wether Sheep can; nor are ſo capable of being folded ſo early and ſo late in the Year as Wether Sheep are. In *Hertfordſhire* there are two Sorts of Farmers that keep Ewe Flocks; one whereof are thoſe that

that have not the Conveniency of a Common to graze them on, and therefore are obliged (as I have before obſerved) to keep them within Ground, for making a Profit of their Lambs, and by folding them after the Lambs are fatted and ſold off: Here the Ewes have the Advantage of being free from that painful Malady the Foot-Rot, which in many Places both Ewes and Wethers are ſubject to. But thoſe that are moſt ſubject to it are thoſe Ewes that ſuckle Houſe Lambs, becauſe they are obliged to travel ſeveral Times a Day to and from Home; by which as they walk through Dirt, and perhaps over gravelly Ground, they are more than ordinary liable to take up Dirt and Gravel in their Feet, that eats into them, feſters, and brings the poor Beaſt under exquiſite Pain; ſometimes to the Loſs of its Life, if not timely relieved. And although this Malady moſtly affects thoſe Ewes that are conſtantly ſuckling, yet it ſometimes befals thoſe that are driven to and from the Fold among Wether Sheep; for many Farmers, eſpecially in the Chiltern Country, keep Ewes as well as Wethers in one Flock, for good Reaſons; firſt, becauſe in keeping ſome Ewes among Wethers, they bring a Summer as well as Winter Profit; in Summer, after they have lamb'd, and the Lambs are big enough, many Farmers fold both Ewes and Lambs among their Wether Sheep; others fat both Ewes and Lambs, that is to ſay, when both are fed in Plenty of Meat, and the Lambs are fatted and ſold off to the Butcher, the Ewes, that in ſuch good Keeping were getting Fleſh all the Time they gave Suck, they keep fatting on, till they are fit for the Butcher; and thus a Farmer makes a Summer Profit both of his Ewes and of his Lambs, and by the ſame is enabled to buy in other Ewes from the Weſt, or elſewhere, to bring Lambs in the Spring Seaſon, and fold or fat them in the Summer.

The Profit that a Hertfordſhire *Farmer made, by buying in a Parcel of Ewes that were forward in Lamb.*--THIS Farmer I am here writing of, lives within two Miles of my Houſe, where he rents a large incloſed Farm, conſiſting of moſt arable Land, and leſs Meadow, and being one of the notable Sort, he, at *Hempſtead* Fair, in *Hertfordſhire*, which is always held on *Corpus-Chriſti* Day, or three Weeks before *Holy Thurſday*, bought a Parcel of Weſtern Ewes forward in Lamb; for they all lamb'd by the latter End of *Auguſt*; and fed both the Ewes and their Lambs in his Meadow Ground, where theſe tender Dams, and good Nurſes, ſoon fatted their Lambs; for it happened to be a plentiful Year of Graſs,

inſomuch that while the Lambs ſuck'd their Ewes, the Ewes and Lambs fatted apace. The Lambs he ſold off to the Butcher firſt, and then continued fatting the Ewes till he likewiſe ſold them to the Butcher; ſo that all the Ewes and their Lambs were fatted and ſold off by the latter End of *November*: And, as the Farmer own'd, he was well paid for his thus buying in, feeding, and fatting theſe Ewes and Lambs.

The Management of a Ewe and her Lamb juſt yeaned, in hard Weather, by this Author.----WHAT I mean by hard Weather, is froſty, or ſnowy, cold or rainy Weather, which moſtly happens in *December*, *January*, *February*, and *March*, when our folding, or ſtore Sheep, generally begin and end their Lambing. At ſuch a Time as this, a Shepherd's Skill and Care is tried, to preſerve ſick or weakly Lambs alive, eſpecially in very cold wet Weather; which, unleſs an exceſſive Snow falls in the Night, is the worſt Weather of all others for Sheep to lamb in abroad, becauſe the cold Air, and Rain withal, ſo chills the new-fell Lambs, that many are not able to reſiſt, but die on the Spot before a Shepherd comes into the Field. It alſo ſometimes happens, that, in very ſharp Froſts, when Nights are very long, ſome Lambs are frozen to the Ground before they are found: But if they are not thus kill'd, by the Severity of Cold, Snows, or Rains, many of the weaker Sort of Lambs (eſpecially thoſe that come of very young, or very poor half-ſtarved Ewes) are yeaned very feeble and ſick; ſo that, without timely Aſſiſtance, they muſt die: In this Caſe, as ſoon as ſuch weakly Lamb is found, both Ewe and Lamb ſhould be brought out of the Field, and kept in an Outhouſe or Barn, for one, two, three, or four Days, or more, as it's more or leſs in Danger of dying, till it gathers Strength to endure the open Air. When this happens, or that Snows hinder the Ewe from getting her Living abroad, we commonly give her Cole, or Turnips, or Peaſe, or Oats, or Bran, in a Trough in the open Air, or under Cover, with Hay or Peaſe-ſtraw, for enabling her to maintain her Lamb well: Or if the Lamb is ſo weak that it cannot ſuck its Dam (as it often happens) we put the Teat into its Mouth, and repeat it, till by this Method we bring it to ſuck of its own accord.----But if the Ewe's Bag or Udder is hard and ſnarled, or inflamed, and hardly any Milk can be got from her, we then make uſe of Cows Milk, ſweetned with a little Sugar, and feed the Lamb with it by

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a Tea-ſpoon, or by a Sucking-Bottle, or by a Pipe. I have a Pewter Sucking-Bottle for this Purpoſe; but where this is not, a Hole may be made through a Cork; and when the Cork is faſtened into a Pint or Half-pint Glaſs-Bottle, a Quill may be thruſt through it for the Lamb to ſuck by, unleſs the Lamb is extream ſick or weak; then ſome will put warm Cows Milk into the Bowl of a Pipe, and let the Lamb take it into its Mouth by the ſmall End of it; and after it has got a little ſtrong, then we let the Sucking-Bottle come into Uſe, till the Lamb ſucks enough from the Ewe to do without other Help.----In *January*, 1747-8, I had a Ewe that refuſed to let her firſt Lamb ſuck, till we brought her to it by Degrees; ſo that what by her unnatural Behaviour, and the Want of a ſufficient Quantity of Milk, the Lamb muſt have been ſtarved, had we not ſupplied the Deficiency with the Sucking-Bottle; and this I was forced to do even till *March*, by ſending warm Cows Milk in a Sucking-Bottle into an adjacent Field of Turnips, where the Ewe was put to feed and recover her full Quantity of Milk, and become ſociable enough to let her Lamb ſuck with Freedom.----Another Caſe of this Kind was, that I had Twin Lambs in *March*, one whereof was ſo weak, that I was forced to keep it in a Houſe four Nights together with the Ewe, and to feed it by a Spoon till it got ſtrong enough to ſuck the Sheep; and then it grew, and proved to be a fine Lamb.----I had another Lamb, that a Sheep would not take; a Vice that ſome of the youngeſt Sort are guilty of; which obliged me to keep it ſome Hours by the Fire-ſide, and give it ſome of the Ewe's Milk out of a Sucking-Bottle; but by my Shepherd's putting it into the Cold too ſoon, it died: Which ſhews, that if a Lamb is thus tenderly uſed at firſt, it muſt not be too ſuddenly expoſed to the Cold.

Of aſſiſting Ewes with a manual Operation, when they cannot lamb of themſelves.----ALL Authors, that I ever read, have been deficient in accounting for a too common Misfortune that attends ſome Ewes in their Lambing; they have indeed made ſome Advances towards the Edge of this important Matter, then quitted it, and, conſequently, left their Readers in the Dark. The greater the Number of Ewes are, the more liable a Farmer is to ſuffer this Way; and where the Caſe is thus, there ought to be a ſkilful as well as careful Shepherd employed; one that underſtands how to help a Ewe in ſuch her Diſtreſs, a Diſtreſs that undoubtedly

doubtedly is very great; and yet moſt Farmers and Shepherds let the Ewe endure it till ſhe is almoſt ſpent; and we find ſhe cannot, without Aſſiſtance, yean her Lamb. But before I proceed to the Method of doing this, I ſhall firſt give my Reader an Account how it may come to paſs, that a Lamb may lie in a wrong Poſture in the Belly of a Ewe, in order to avoid the Occaſion of it.

Of ſeveral Cauſes that may occaſion a Lamb to lie in a wrong Poſture in a Ewe's Belly.----AUTHORS Omiſſion in not informing Shepherds and others, how to avoid the Occaſion of this Evil, does not move my Wonder; ſince I find that moſt of them, who have wrote on Sheep and Lambs, (as I have obſerved) have made the ancient Works of *Adam Speed*, and thoſe tranſlated from *French* Authors, *&c.* their Foundation: Nay, ſome of them have wrote as new, the old Words of thoſe Authors for their own, and thus publiſhed them right or wrong. I ſhall, therefore, here offer my Thoughts how it may come to paſs that a Lamb lies in a wrong Poſture in a Ewe's Belly. Firſt, one Occaſion of it may come by a Dog's hunting Ewes in Lamb in ſuch a violent Manner, that obliges them to turn very quick and ſhort, and ſometimes to fall on their Side or Back: So that what with the exceſſive Fright of the Dog, and the ſudden Jirk of their Body, the Lamb becomes diſplaced. A ſecond Occaſion comes by an indiſcreet Handling of a Ewe in Lamb, by an ignorant Shepherd; who, to feel what Condition its Bag or Udder is in, or on ſome other Account, places the Ewe on her Arſe, and holds her with her Back towards him between his Legs, till he feels it, which may bring the Body of the Beaſt into a Poſture that may occaſion the turning of the Lamb in her Belly. A third Occaſion may come by a Ewe's feeding on Rapes or Turnips; the latter Sort of which, many of our Chiltern Farmers are forced to give them as Store Sheep, becauſe they have no other green Meat for them in Winter, as I ſhall further give an Account of by and by. In the mean Time I have to obſerve, that, where a Farmer gives Turnips with, or without the green Tops, in ſuch Plenty that a Ewe, by much feeding on them, increaſes her Lamb to a greater Bulk than ordinary, (as it frequently happens) I ſay, that ſuch a Ewe will, very probably, want to be aſſiſted with a manual Operation.

How to aſſiſt a Ewe by a manual Operation, when ſhe cannot lamb without it.---THEN it is, that where a Shepherd does

does not underſtand it, or is otherwiſe incapacitated to perform this Office, we commonly get ſome neighbouring Woman to do it, who firſt muſt greaſe her Hand with freſh Greaſe, and then try to feel which Way the Head of the Lamb lies; for ſometimes it lies a-croſs, or overthwart in the Sheep's Belly; in others it lies contrary, with its Head towards the Sheep's Head. In either of theſe Caſes, if the Lamb can be ſo turned that its Head may come foremoſt, it is right, but this cannot be always done; there a Shepherd or Woman is obliged to bring it away as they can; for it may happen that the Lamb muſt be pulled out by its Legs, which is the moſt dangerous Way of all others. However, by ſuch timely Aſſiſtance of a ſkilful Hand, where one Sheep dies under the Operation, two or three live. To this Account of mine, I ſhall ſubjoin what Meſſieurs, two antient *French* Authors, have wrote, in their Book, intituled, ----*Maſon Ruſtique*---where they ſay as followeth, *viz.*

The Management of Ewes that cannot lamb without manual Operation, by ancient Authors.----WHEN the Ewe (ſay they) is in Lambing, care ſhould be had to help her if Need require, drawing the whole Lamb out of her Body, if it lie overthwart and cannot come forth; for this poor Beaſt is pained in Lambing, as Women be in bearing of their Children; and oftentimes (being void of Reaſon) ſhe travaileth with much greater Pains. The Lamb being come forth, it muſt be lifted up and holden right, and afterwards put to the Teat of the Ewe, thereby to uſe it to ſuck the Dam; and yet not ſo forthwith, but that there be ſome of her foremoſt Milk drawn out firſt, which otherwiſe may hurt the Lamb; afterwards it ſhall be ſhut up with the Dam for the two firſt Days, to the End ſhe may keep it the warmer, and it may the better learn to know her: In the mean Time Care muſt be had to feed the Ewe with the beſt Hay that may be found, with a little Bran and Salt amongſt it; thus to keep her in a Houſe very faſt and ſure, and not to ſuffer her to go forth for three or four Days; to carry her Water to drink, a little warm, and wherein is mixed a little of the Flour of Millet and of Salt; to draw from her her firſt Milk becauſe it is not good: And as ſoon as her Lamb ſhall begin to know her, ſhe may be let looſe to go and feed in the Fields; and to keep her Lamb faſt in a warm dark Houſe, until ſuch Time as it begin to play the Wanton; out of which Houſe it ſhall be let looſe Morning and Evening

Evening to ſuck the Dam at her coming home, and going to the Field; and after that it ſhall be grown a little ſtronger, you ſhall give it, within Houſe, ſome Bran or very ſmall Hay, and that of the beſt that can be gotten, to keep it occupied with all the Time the Dam is in the Field.----So far the *French* Authors.

The Management of a Ewe, that had a Lamb drawn from her by this Author.----OUR *Hertfordſhire* Way is, in Caſe the Lamb is thus forced from the Sheep's Body, and the Sheep is ſick or very weak, we ſhut Sheep and Lamb up in a Barn, or in an Outhouſe, and boil ſome Milk, Crumbs of Bread, and Sugar together; which, when lukewarm, we give it with a Spoon to the Sheep: Or, for want of Milk, we boil Ale, Bread, and Sugar together, and give it: At the ſame Time, we lay a few Turnips, or Cabbage Leaves, or Carrots, before the Ewe for her to eat, to heal her Body, nouriſh her, and increaſe her Milk: Theſe, with ſhort fine Hay, generally recover and ſtrengthen the Ewe to ſuckle her Lamb, and bring forward its Growth apace. But ſome think theſe hardly ſufficient, therefore add a Feed of Bran and Oats.

To prevent a Ewe caſting her Lamb, by Adam Speed, *and to make her lamb eaſily, without Danger to her or Lamb.*----IF you perceive (ſays he) the Ewe defective in Nature to bring forth her Young, lay her ſoft and to the beſt Advantage of Yeaning; then take a little Horſe-mint, or for Want of it other Mint, and boil it in half a Pint of Ale, and give it her warm, and ſhe will yean with Eaſe.

Of increaſing Milk in EWES.

TO know how to increaſe Milk in Ewes is ſo material a Matter, that the Lives of Lambs many Times depend on it. Now there is more than one Impediment that hinders a Ewe giving Milk enough to nouriſh her Lamb: Firſt, by the Defect of Nature, induced by keeping the Sheep ſhort of Meat, which is too common a Caſe with many Farmers, who overſtock their Land with Cattle, and have more than they can well feed; a Misfortune that well deſerves to be wrote on for warning many againſt it: For how is it poſſible for a Beaſt to nouriſh her Young and give it Milk enough, when its Carcaſs is not ſupplied with Food

ſufficient for it: But of this more by and-by.---The ſecond Impediment is occaſioned by a gargetty ſwell'd Bag, which affects ſome Ewes to ſuch a Degree, that if it is not timely cured, the Milk goes away, and the Sheep and Lamb perhaps die; for as Milk lies ſome Time in the Udder of ſome Sheep before they lamb, if it is attended with any foul Humour of the Blood, preſently after the Sheep has lamb'd, it will begin to look red, be inflamed, ſwell, and grow harder and harder; yet, if a proper Medicine is timely applied, we ſeldom fail of curing it, and the Lamb is little or nothing the worſe for it. But before I enlarge further on this Subject, I ſhall preſent my Readers with the Account that ſome ancient Authors give of it, as follows, *viz.*

Adam Speed's *Method of increaſing Milk in Ewes.*---- CHANGE their Paſture, if you find their Udders are drying up, or that they give but little Milk; but let it be ſhort and ſweet, nothing inferior, but rather exceeding that they are removed from; for, indeed, nothing (ſays he) increaſes Milk in Ewes more than Change of Paſture and freſh Feeding; and if the Ground give Opportunity, drive them one while to the Hills, then again to the Valleys; and where it is ſweeteſt and ſhort, they will eat with the beſt Appetite; there ſee they continue longeſt; and to bring their Milk down apace, give them, mingled with ſhort Graſs, or ſhort Hay, Fitches, Dill, Anniſeeds, and the like, and their Milk will ſpring apace.----So far *Adam Speed*, who, as I have before remark'd, wrote in 1629; and next to him writes

Garvaiſe Markham, *his Method of increaſing Milk in Ewes.*----NOTHING (ſays he) increaſeth Milk in Ewes more than Change of Paſture and Feeding; driving them one while unto the Hills, another while to the Valleys, and where the Graſs is ſweeteſt and ſhort, the Sheep eateth with the beſt Appetite; there ſee you continue longeſt. For touching giving them Fitches, Dill, Anniſeed, and ſuch like, this Change of Ground will make them ſpring much better.----So far *Garvaiſe Markham*----The next Author that appears on the Stage, and writes on increaſing Milk in Ewes, is *James Lambert*, who ſays as follows:

James Lambert's *Method of increaſing Milk in Ewes.*---- IF you find (ſays he) their Udders drying up, or that they give but little Milk, change their Paſtures to ſuch as has ſhort and ſweet Graſs, and better than that from which you remove them; and if the Ground has a Conveniency, drive

them ſometimes on the Hills, and, at other Times, on the plain Ground or Valleys, and where the Graſs is ſweeteſt and ſhorteſt, they will eat with the beſt Appetite; and when you bring them home, mingle with their Graſs or ſhort Hay, Dill, Vetches, and Anniſeed, and this will reſtore and increaſe their Milk.----So far *James Lambert.*

Remarks by this Author on the ancient Authors Receipts to increaſe Milk in Ewes.----It is plain that theſe three Authors have, in theſe three Receipts, wrote them almoſt in the ſame Words, which ſhews they knew no other Way of increaſing a Ewe's Milk in their Time, though there was ſeventy-four Years Space between their firſt and laſt Writings; and then they writ theſe in a very coarſe, inſipid Manner from what is known at this Time, how to increaſe a Ewe's Milk. They recommend a Mixture of Vetches, Dill, and Anniſeed, without ſpecifying whether they are to be given the Ewe green or dry. On this Account therefore, I think it neceſſary to inform my Reader, that Vetches, or Thetches, is a Corn about the Bigneſs of the ſmalleſt Pea, and when thraſh'd, their Nature is hot, and dry, and bitteriſh, which Qualities induce Pigeon-keepers to feed their Pigeons with them, as the beſt Food to make them lay Eggs and breed often: Hence it is, that if Vetches are given to Ewes in their dry Condition, they'll tend rather to dry away Milk, than to increaſe it; ſo Dills, or Tills, being one of the ſmalleſt Sort of Pod Corn we ſow on our white Grounds, (for theſe are about half the Bigneſs of a Tare or Thetch) are much of their Nature, and likewiſe, conſequently, (if given dry to Ewes) tend to dry away, rather than increaſe their Milk; Anniſeed the ſame: But if either the Vetch, the Till, and the Anniſeed Plants, are given to Ewes while they are green; then, I ſay, it alters the Caſe; for that the ſucculent or ſappy Quality of moſt green Vegetables, conduces much to the breeding of Milk: But where are ſuch green Vegetables to be had, at the Time of Year when Ewes uſually lamb, which is between *Chriſtmas* and *Lady-day?* There are, indeed, thoſe we call Winter-Thetches, or Thetches ſown about *Michaelmas*-time in our chiltern Country: A new Piece of Huſbandry, that I ſuppoſe our Forefathers were ignorant of, and what poſſibly may be made Food for breeding Plenty of Milk in a Ewe. But then as it is in Winter and Spring-time that ſuch green Food is moſtly wanted, theſe Winter Thetches are generally ſo ſhort, that hardly any of them

can be cut at theſe Seaſons; for I ſow few or more of theſe Thetches every Year for feeding my Horſes, Cows, and Sheep with them, while in their green Condition: And as for Dill or Tills, or Anniſeed, they are Seeds that are ſown in the Spring Seaſon, and cannot be expected in Growth time enough to become Part of a Subſiſtence for Sheep in their lambing Time.----This leads me to publiſh my Methods of increaſing Milk in Ewes.

This Author's firſt Receipt for increaſing Milk in Ewes by Ivy Leaves.---Ivy is an Evergreen Vegetable, that carries on it many ſubſtantial green Leaves throughout the Year, and is to be found both in Chiltern and Vale Countries, growing about the Bodies of Trees, againſt Walls, and againſt Pales, *&c.* and in Proceſs of Time, will acquire Stalks as big as a Man's Leg. Theſe medicinal Leaves being thus to be had at all Times of the Year, are thoſe that will increaſe Milk in Ewes beyond many others; for which Reaſon, ſome Farmers ſend their Boys about the Country, or Shepherds go to find out ſome of this neceſſary Food for feeding their Ewes with them, to increaſe their Milk in any Weather whatſoever: For theſe Ivy Leaves may be got in Snows, Froſts, and, at all Times, without Moleſtation or Hindrance from the Owners of them; and are of ſuch an agreeable Nature and Taſte, that all Sheep will greedily eat them; and are not only valuable for increaſing Milk in Ewes, but are likewiſe very healthful to all Sheep that feed on them, as I intend to give a further Account of hereafter, when I write of the Rot and Red-water.----I know a certain Farmer that lives on the Edge of the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, who employs a Boy moſt part of the Spring-ſeaſon to find out and gather Ivy Leaves, for feeding his Ewes with, to increaſe their Milk, and for ſupplying the Defect of Graſs, Turnips, or Rapes: But where Turnips or Rapes are to be had, at a Time when a Ewe has lamb'd and is ſhort of Milk, then I have to ſay as follows, *viz.*

This Author's ſecond Receipt to increaſe Milk in Ewes, by the Food of Turnips.----It is true, that Ivy Leaves anſwer the Character I have given of them, and that what makes them moſt valuable is, becauſe theſe Leaves are to be gathered green, when no other proper green Food is to be got for Ewes in Winter; and therefore are of the greater Service to thoſe Farmers that live in Vales, where their low wet Land hinders them from ſowing Turnip-ſeed, and whoſe open Fields hinder them from ſowing Rape-ſeed. But in an incloſed

chiltern Country, where we ſow Turnip, and Rape, or Cole, the Caſe is otherwiſe: Therefore when we have here any Ewe that has not Milk enough to ſuckle her Lamb, we either turn ſuch a Sheep with her Lamb, into the Turnip Field, or, if we find it more proper, keep the Ewe and Lamb in a Barn or Outhouſe; we then draw Turnips, and give them to the Ewe to eat with fine Hay, and it generally anſwers our Wiſh: For, as a Turnip is a very watry Plant, it ſeldom fails creating Milk in Abundance.

This Author's third Receipt to increaſe Milk in Ewes, by the Food of Cole or Rape.----WHERE a Farmer is Owner of a Field of Cole or Rapes, he is well provided for having that which will increaſe Milk in Ewes; therefore if a Ewe wants Milk to ſuckle her Lamb, it's only letting her feed on the Cole in the Field, or gathered and brought into a Barn; and if any Vegetable will produce Milk in Abundance, this will.

This Author's fourth Receipt to increaſe Milk in Ewes, by the Food of Grains and Bran.----BUT it may be the Caſe of many Farmers, both in Vale and Chiltern Countries, to have no manner of green Food to give Ewes that have not Milk enough to ſuckle their Lambs: In this Caſe, freſh Grains, if given to ſuch a Ewe, will breed and increaſe Milk in a large Quantity; and ſo will Bran, if a little wetted; or if theſe are given in a Mixture, they will prove a juicy hearty Food, breeding a thin Milk, that is of the moſt nouriſhing and moſt beneficial Nature, to a new-yeaned Lamb, for cauſing it to thrive and fat apace.

The diligent Management of a Country Smith, or Farrier, who, though he had but three Pole of grazing Ground, yet kept half a Score Ewes all the Year to Profit.---THIS Farrier, named *John Bunyon*, was one of the leaſt Sort; but having a Shop near me, I employed him to ſhoe my Plow-Horſes; by which, and a little more Cuſtom, the Man made ſhift to live, with the Help of the Profit he made by keeping half a Score Ewes, though he had but about three Poles of Ground in a little Orchard adjoining to the Cottage he rented; which obliged him to have Recourſe to the Common of *Barkhamſtead* and *Little Gaddeſden*, for grazing his ten Sheep when there was Graſs for them; and when there was not, he generally ſupply'd the Want of it with dry Meat: But when any of his Ewes had lamb'd, he bought Turnips, Grains, or Bran, that he wetted and fed them with, for breeding and increaſing their Milk; beſides which,

which, he would frequently get Ivy Leaves, well knowing this cheap Food to be a hearty Breeder of Milk. Theſe, and Apple Parings, *&c.* were the ſeveral Meats he gave his Ewes when there was no Graſs to be had: And I am an Eye-witneſs, that this Man, by his careful diligent Manner of feeding his Ewes with a proper Food in due Time, got Money by them; for he would ſell his Lambs off about *Michaelmas*-time: And as for his Ewes, he kept the ſame Number on, Year after Year, as I have before ſhewn.

Of the Coſſart LAMB.

The Deſcription and Management of a Coſſart Lamb.

A COSSART Lamb in *Hertfordſhire*, is one left by its Dam's dying by Diſeaſe or Hurt, before it is capable of geting its own Living; or is one that is taken from a Ewe that brings two or three or four Lambs at a Yeaning, and is incapable of ſuckling and bringing them all up: In either of theſe Caſes, if there be not another Ewe at Liberty to ſuckle it, it muſt be brought up by Hand. Now what I call a Ewe at Liberty, is ſuch a one as has loſt her Lamb by Sickneſs or Hurt, and has Milk enough to ſuckle an Alien, or the Lamb of another Ewe, which often happens. But whether it be a Lamb deprived of its Dam, or a ſupernumerary Lamb, if there be a Ewe to ſuckle it, ſhe muſt, in the firſt Place, be brought to love and take it as her own: Which to do, I ſhall give an Account of by and by; and now have to ſay, that the youngeſt, weakeſt Lamb of this Sort, is that which firſt comes under my Notice, and is one that is left by a Ewe that dies in Lambing or otherwiſe, before it is capable of getting a Living without ſucking; and ſo any other Lamb that is thus diſtreſs'd; ſuch a one, I ſay, muſt be firſt fed by a Spoon, with Cows or other Sheeps Milk, while it is Milk-warm, and continued under ſuch Spoon-meat till it can ſuck out of a Sucking-Bottle, which, in Time, the Lamb, by Uſe, will bleat to have, and greedily meet the Bottle on the firſt Motion of its being preſented with it; inſomuch that a Coſſart Lamb, by being thus cuſtomarily ſuckled in a Farm-Yard, Orchard, or Houſe, is very apt to become troubleſome, as being with Difficulty kept from it: And the more, where there are ſeveral in this Condition, at one and the ſame Time, which I have known

to

to be the Caſe; however, ſuch Coſſart Lambs generally pay their Owner well for his Trouble and Charge, if they are brought up by Hand in the following, or in ſome other good Manner.

How a Vale Farmer brought up eight or ten Coſſart Lambs, almoſt at a Time, by Hand, till they could feed on Graſs and ſhift for themſelves.---A FARMER living at *Aſcott*, in the Pariſh of *Wing* in *Buckinghamſhire*, had eight or ten of theſe Coſſart Lambs at a Time, under the Feed of Cows Milk, in an Orchard that he kept them in, by feeding them with warm Cows Milk out of a Sucking-Bottle; at firſt, four times a Day, and as they advanced in Age and got ſtronger, then he did it three times a Day; at laſt, twice a Day, till they were got old and ſtrong enough to eat Graſs; for a Lamb can hardly eat Hay till it is near a Year old: Thus many Lambs have been preſerved, and many more may, if judiciouſly taken Care of, till they become profitable Sheep; which, without ſuch Care and Management, muſt have periſhed.

An Account how a poor Woman became Miſtreſs of a Flock of Sheep, by breeding up a Caſt-away Coſſart Lamb.----IT happened, as I am inform'd, that a Ewe bringing three Lambs at a Time, provoked the Shepherd to throw the third Lamb into a Hedge to die, and make the better Room for the Ewe's ſuckling the other two; but a poor Woman, accidentally ſeeing this done, went immediately to the Shepherd, and begg'd this thrown-away Lamb; and as it proved to be a Ewe Lamb, ſhe was tempted to employ her utmoſt Skill and Care to nurſe it up by the Spoon and Sucking-Bottle, with warm Cows Milk; which, although not ſo natural to a Lamb as Sheeps Milk, yet ſhe made ſhift to rear it, till it could feed on Graſs and ſhift for itſelf: And live it did, and became a fine Sheep, for ſuch a one it proved to this poor Woman, who having a little Graſs Spot of Ground near a Common, fed it here, and on a Common, till it took Ram; and being of a Twin Breed, brought, I ſuppoſe, Twin Lambs, (as ſuch commonly do) for I am told ſhe raiſed a Flock of Sheep from this ſingle Ewe and her Breed, and became a Woman of Worth by it.

How a poor Woman coming over a Common in the Month of April, *found a Lamb juſt yeaned, and forſaken by the Ewe, and how ſhe ſuckled it at her Breaſt to preſerve its Life.*----THIS was Fact, and happened in this Manner: A poor Woman, whoſe Habitation was on the Edge of *Dunſtable-Downs*,

Downs, having been at *Barkhamſtead*, a Town eight Miles from where ſhe lived, did, in her Return home, find on *Barkhamſtead*-Common, a Lamb juſt yeaned and forſaken by its Dam; ſo that, in Courſe, the Lamb muſt have died, had ſhe not taken it up and preſerved its Life, which ſhe did, by clapping it immediately to her Breaſt; and it took the Nipple ſo well, that it ſucked and lived till it got home, where ſhe fed it with a Spoon, and afterwards by a Sucking-Bottle, till it arrived at ſuch an Age, and got Strength enough to enable it to eat Graſs, and get its own Living: And thus this poor Woman, by bringing up a Coſſart Lamb, became Owner of a valuable Sheep.

Of the Cuckoo LAMB.

Of the Lamb, we in Hertfordſhire *call the Cuckoo Lamb.*

ALL Lambs yeaned in *April* or *May*, are called with us, in *Hertfordſhire*, the Cuckoo Lambs, becauſe they fall in Cuckoo Time, and which are generally the firſt Lambs of very young Sheep, or Lambs of very old Sheep, occaſioned by their taking Ram very late; and as theſe Lambs are generally of the ſmalleſt Sort, both Ewe and Lamb ſhould have the beſt of Keeping, in order for fattening the Lamb for the Butcher; becauſe ſuch diminutive Lambs are unfit to be kept for making Store-Sheep: Beſides, as theſe Lambs are yeaned later than ordinary, it is very likely they may meet with green Meat enough to fat them apace, and come in Seaſon to be ſold for the more Money; as they are of the youngeſt Sort, and fatted late.

Of the Set or Stunted LAMB.

The Loſs of ſetting or ſtunting Lambs, for Want of ſufficient Food.

THERE are Thouſands of Lambs ſet, or ſtunted, for Want of ſufficient Food to carry on their Growth; whether it be for Lack of a due Quantity of Milk from the Ewe, or by being kept too ſhort of Graſs, or other green Meat, which often happens to be the Caſe with indolent Huſbandmen; who not foreſeeing the dire Effects of long

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and frosty Seasons, make not a necessary Provision for their Sheep and Lambs against such hard Times: For although a thick Head of Grass may remain on the Ground at *Alhallontide* or later, yet when severe Frosts continue some Time, they are apt to cut off the Grass, and thereby deprive their Sheep and Lambs of that Store of it, which our short-sighted Farmers pretended should help them in the Spring Months for a Subsistence; whereas it frequently comes to pass, that, in the Months of *January*, *February*, and *March*, there is hardly any Grass left on the Ground; then what must become of the Lambs? It is easily answer'd, by foretelling that, if Grass Lambs want a Bellyful, at this Time of the Year, they'll be set, grow Pot-belly'd, become lean and stunted, and not be able rightly to recover such a Check in all the following Summer. But the Misfortune does not end here, for as such stunted Grass Lambs will not fat in any reasonable Time, the Farmer is obliged to keep them on for Store Sheep; and thus suffer a Loss by a bad Fleece of Wool, and a poor stunted Carcass; and if they are Ewes, by a poor diminutive Breed of Lambs. Now, as common as this bad Case has been with many Farmers, there be those, to my Knowledge, that are every Year guilty of this ill Management, less or more, both in Chiltern and Vale Countries; in Vales especially, because, in many Parts of them, they can get no Field Turnips, by Reason their low wet Grounds will not answer being sown with them. Hence it is, that their Lambs are forced to live extream hard, by the little Milk they draw from Ewes, and by the little Grass that is to be pick'd up in snowy, wet, and cold Weather, which occasions many of their Lambs to die, or become stunted. In chiltern Countries, indeed, I must confess, that that Farmer, who lets his Lambs be set and stunted for Want of Meat, is doubly faulty; because here they can sow Turnips and other Vegetables, for sustaining them in hard Weather: And yet I know many here that have ventured to run the Risque of stunting their Lambs in such cold Seasons, and suffer'd for it accordingly. But whether it be a Vale or Chiltern Farmer that is Owner of many Ewes and Lambs, it is my real Opinion, that few of them need suffer themselves to be in such Straits for Want of Meat to feed their Ewes in frosty and other hard Weather, so as to let their Lambs be set and stunted, if they would but make a timely Provision for them, by sowing *Turnip* or Cole-seed; and this, where there is, and where there

there is not Incloſure; for if a little Piece of Land was thus ſown, and incloſed with only moveable Hurdles, many large Turnips, or high Cole Plants, might grow in it, if well huſbanded, and be reſerved for feeding and aſſiſting thoſe Ewes in ſuckling their Lambs, that ſtand moſt in Need of it.

Of Weaning LAMBS.

The Hertfordſhire *Method of weaning Lambs.*

THE Weaning of Lambs in this incloſed Country, if rightly managed, gives their Owners very little Trouble; yet to wean them in ſuch a Manner that they may receive no Check, nor be ſtunted in their Growth, is the Art and Care of a judicious Farmer. A Lamb may be thoroughly weaned from his Ewe in about two Months Time, for in this Space the Ewe's Milk will be gone, and the Lamb forget its Dam, if they are parted far enough out of the Hearing of each other. This Piece of Huſbandry we commonly put in Practiſe about *May-day*, or ſix Weeks before Sheering Time, which is about the 11th of *June*, when we put our Ewes and weaned Lambs together again, after they have been ſhorn, in order to fold both till about *Allhallontide*, when the Weather begins to come in hard for Winter, and obliges the Farmer to lay his Folding aſide. Now to wean theſe Lambs from the Ewes, we Chiltern Farmers turn them into a Field of Oats, with an old Ewe in their Company; perhaps to the old Ewe we put twenty, thirty, or forty Lambs, the better to ſatisfy their Honings after their Dams, and keep them from ranging too much: And as the Oats are not ſhot out, if the Lambs are ſhifted often enough out of one Field into another, they'll pick and eat up many Weeds, and do little or no Harm to the Oats. Some again, that have Peaſe and no Oats growing, put theſe Lambs among them to feed for a little Time, before they are in Bloſſom; but this is practiſed but by few; and thoſe that do it ſay, the Lambs pick and feed among the Peaſe-Stalks, and crop the Heads of Weeds, and eat not the Peaſe, unleſs it be a little at their firſt going into the Field, and then they do but very little Harm. Others at their Weaning put them to feed in Clover, or Reygraſs, or Trefoil, or among green Thetches; but where none of theſe are, and Meadow or Paſture Ground is, the Lambs will wean very

well here or there. But ſome Farmers forbear weaning their Lambs till Sheering Time, and then they are thoſe that are deſign'd to be kept for Store Sheep; and as the Lambs are now weaned off, the Ewes will take Ram the ſooner.

Weaning Lambs in Vale Countries.------In ſome Parts of Vales there are incloſed Grounds, but as the greateſt Part of them conſiſts in open-field Land, there may be many Farmers that have little or no Meadow Ground, nor an incloſed Field belonging to their Farm, and therefore incapacitated to wean their Lambs, by feeding them apart in particular grazing Grounds. In this Caſe, they are obliged to let the Lamb wean itſelf, which in Time it will do, notwithſtanding it goes all the while with the Ewe; for as the Lamb grows older and larger, the Dam grows indifferent of it more and more, till at laſt it butts it, and forces it to keep off from attempting to ſuck longer. And thus the Ewe becomes dry, and the Lamb weaned, notwithſtanding it keeps the Sheep Company in a Fold, and out of a Fold; for after a Lamb is a Month old, many fold it with its Ewe on their open-field Land. The Caſe, alſo, is ſomewhat the ſame, where they have ſome incloſed Ground in a Vale Country, for though by this Means they may ſeparate their Ewes with their Lambs, from their dry Sheep, yet after a Month or five Weeks Time, they let the Lamb go with the Sheep till it weans itſelf.

The Profit of Keeping EWES *and* LAMBS.

The Method that ſome Vale Farmers, and other Vale Men take to make the greateſt Profit of their Ewes and Lambs.

I SAID that few that I know of keep Ewe Flocks in Vales, but that was rather too cloſe an Expreſſion; for though I don't know many that do, yet there are, as I am informed, many that do keep Ewe Flocks in Vale Grounds, as in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, about *Wing*, *Aſcott*, *Solebury*, &c. and ſo undoubtedly in many other Parts they keep Ewe Flocks, as thinking them to be more profitable than Wethers; yet, go into many Parts of Vales, and there be thoſe that think as much the contrary, and believe no Flock of Sheep pays them ſo well as a Wether Flock, as moſt or all do in the aforeſaid Vale, that live about *Chedington*, *Moſsworth*, *Puttenham*, *Abbots-*

Abbots-Arſon, &c. Ewe Sheep in Vales, I muſt own, have a ſoft Earth to travel on to and from a Fold, and therefore are not ſo ſubject to ſuffer by the Foot-Rot, like thoſe Ewes that travel, on the ſame Account, upon chiltern, gravelly Ground: Yet, what is worſe, both Ewes and Lambs are more ſubject to rot here than in Chiltern Countries. However the Vale Farmer ventures this; and when a Rot keeps off for a few Years together, as it ſometimes does, they then get Money by their Ewe Flock, both by ſelling ſome of their Couples, and folding others. In this Reſpect the Vale is a Sort of Nurſery for the Chiltern Country; for we Chiltern Farmers often buy Couples, and Wether Sheep, out of the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, for the Sake of their Cheapneſs, and their better Wool, for Vale Wool ſells for two or three Shillings a Tod more than our Chiltern Wool does, as I ſhall aſſign Reaſons for in my third Book. Again, Chiltern Farmers ſometimes venture, on a Riſque, to buy Vale Sheep and Lambs, though we ſuſpect they are touch'd with the Rot; becauſe when Vale Men are apprehenſive of the Rot, they are tempted to ſell off their Sheep and Lambs, at a low Price, for fear of loſing them quite; and we buy them in Hopes they'll knit and recover, as many do, that are not too far gone in the Rot.

The Method that a Chiltern Farmer takes to make the greateſt Profit of his Ewes and Lambs.---THIS Farmer is a Neighbour of mine, and one that rents a large incloſed Chiltern Farm, conſiſting of many Fields of arable Land, which every Year gives him great Opportunities to improve the ſame, in ſeveral Branches, to a conſiderable Profit, as his preſent Worth ſufficiently proves true. Now the Branch of Profit I am here writing of, is, I am of Opinion, the chiefeſt of all his others, becauſe by this he increaſes his Flock of Sheep in the cheapeſt Manner poſſible. Secondly, By this he dreſſes his Land with the beſt of Dung, that produces the largeſt Crops of Corn, Turnips, Graſs, *&c.* Thirdly, By this, he is making a conſtant Profit of his Lambs, of his Sheep, and of their Wool: For as he keeps a Flock of about an hundred and ſixty Sheep, conſiſting of Ewes and Wethers, he every Year breeds his own Lambs, Part of which he rears as Store Sheep for his Fold, and moſt of the reſt he fats and ſells to the Butcher. Thoſe Lambs he deſigns to keep for Store Sheep are the Ram Sort, which he has gelt at a proper Age; and as to his Ewe Lambs that he intends to ſell, he keeps them ſucking on their Dams, in a full Bite of Treſoil, Rey-

graſs, or Clover, till they are fat enough for the Butcher, which they commonly are in *May* or *June*. The reſt of his Ewe Lambs, that is to ſay, the largeſt and beſt of them, he always ſaves to make Store Sheep of them, which prevents him buying in any Ewes at all; and beſides thoſe Lambs he gelds to make Store Sheep of them, he buys in ſome Wether Sheep every Year for folding and fatting them afterwards in his Turnips; for this Farmer has a good Common to graze his Sheep on, beſides his In-grounds.

How a certain Yeoman in Hertfordſhire *improves his Farm by keeping Ewes and Lambs.*-----THE Farm of this Yeoman I know very well to be worth eighty Pounds a Year, being an incloſed Farm, conſiſting of gravelly, ſtony, and loamy Ground, in which he ſows Turnips, Clover, Reygraſs and Trefoil Graſſes, that furniſh his Sheep with a full Feed; for he has no Common Land that he can conveniently feed any Cattle on, and therefore he is confined to feed and fat them within Grounds, which to make the moſt Profit of, he thinks Ewe Sheep pay him better than Wether Sheep, becauſe the Ewes bring him Lambs, return him Wool, fold his Ground, and dreſs it by their Dung and Stale, and afterward fat for the Butcher. Whereas if he dealt in only Wether Sheep, he could only expect their Folding, their Wool, and their Fatting; but by keeping Ewe Sheep he fats about ſixty Lambs a Year, that he ſells for about Half a Guinea a-piece; and when he has not Ewes enough of his own, he buys in more in Lamb at two Years old, and breeds from them; then when their Lambs are fatted off, he folds his Ewes till *Allhallontide*, and then ſeparates the oldeſt of them from the reſt, and fats them in his Turnips for the Butcher.

Cures for SICK LAMBS.

The firſt Management of a poor, ſickly, weak, new-yean'd Lamb: By this Author.

BOTH Farmer and Shepherd ought to be well acquainted with thoſe Remedies that will cure ſick and hurt Lambs, becauſe theſe Creatures, in their infant and firſt Growth, are very liable to be ſick, and to Accidents, afterwards, particularly when they are newly lamb'd; for, for Want of a timely Aſſiſtance and proper Remedies many Hundreds of Lambs have been loſt: For it is not only to

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houſe them in cold, ſtormy Weather, but, in caſe they are ſick or hurt, to give them ſpeedy Relief. For which Purpoſe I here preſent my Readers with the following Receipts, *viz.*---As Ewes generally yean their Lambs in the Field in the Months of *December*, or *January*, or *February*, or *March*, where many Ewes are kept; if the Weather is ſeverely ſnowy, wet and cold, ſeveral of their new-yeaned Lambs very probably may ſtand in need of good looking after to ſave their Lives; for we find ſome ſuch Lambs are ſo near dead, that Life can hardly be perceived in them. When it ſo happens, we, in the firſt Place, wrap the Lamb up in an old Stocking, or Cloth, and give it a Tea-Spoonful of Gin, then hold it over a gentle Fire in the Smoak, juſt long enough to warm it, and force it to ſtruggle for Life; for it is our Notion, that if this Method does not keep it alive, nothing will; and we generally find it anſwer accordingly.

To recover a new-yean'd Lamb almoſt dead with Cold: By this Author.------ANOTHER Way that we have to recover a new-yean'd Lamb, almoſt dead with Cold, is, to put a little Straw into an Oven, to light it, and give the Oven ſuch a moderate Heat, as will only juſt ſerve to revive the Lamb; and when it is come to itſelf, by ſuch Heat, we then take it out, and feed it with a Tea-Spoonful, or more, of warm Milk from the Ewe, or from a Cow; and this we do for a Day or two, or more, afterwards, while we keep the Lamb in the Chimney Corner, till it gets ſtrong and able enough to be put to the Ewe, in an Outhouſe, or Barn, where, if we cannot make the Lamb ſuck the Ewe, we feed it with a Spoon, or out of a Sucking-Bottle, till it will. Thus by Heat and the Application of warm Milk, we rear many Lambs, that would, if not thus taken Care of, die; and if we loſe a Lamb, we account it a Crown Loſs.

To recover a ſucking Lamb that is ſick: By this Author.---BOIL ſome Southernwood and Rue, chopt ſmall together, in Half a Pint, or more, of Ale, and with the Liquor mix a little Syrup of Marygold, which give the Lamb by a Spoon, a little Quantity at a Time, and repeat it as you ſee Occaſion.------Southernwood and Rue are two Plants, that grow about two Feet high, which every Farmer ought to keep always by him, either green or dried, for their excellent Virtues, as they relate to Sheep and Lambs Health. Marygolds, alſo, I keep ready in my Garden for theſe and other ſalubrious Occaſions, as being a ſecond Saffron, and deemed by Phyſicians to be of a very cordial Nature, ſtrengthening

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the Heart and Spirits, reſiſting Peſtilence, Small-Pox, Meaſles, Fevers, Inflammations, Swellings; and much uſed in Poſſet-Drink, which revives the Spirits, and ſuccours the Heart; in Fevers, whether malignant or not, they are good in Stomach Plaiſters, and the diſtilled Water of them is good for the Uſes before mentioned.--------Rue, alſo, he ſays, has theſe Virtues: It is a great Antidote againſt all Infection, Plague, Poiſons, provokes Urine, cures Agues, Cholick Pains, Pimples, Spleen, Ulcers of the Noſe and Head, *&c.* ----Southernwood likewiſe (ſays the ſame Phyſician) cureth Convulſions, provokes Urine, reſiſteth Infections and Poiſons, Agues, inflamed Eyes, red Faces and Wheals, Ulcers, Sores, French-pox, Spleen, Vapours, and Stone, *&c.*

James Lambert's *Receipt to cure Lambs yeaned ſick.*--Boil, ſays he, a little Saffron and Cinnamon in ſome of the Milk of the Dam, and give it the Lamb, and it will grow healthful and ſtout.

This Author's Receipt to cure an aged ſick Lamb.---- If a Lamb is taken ſick, when it has got into an Age of Strength, it is practiſed by ſeveral Shepherds in *Hertfordſhire*, to ſet the Lamb upon its Arſe between their Legs, and rub its Mouth with a little Virgin Mold, which is the next Earth under a thin Graſs Turf; and when he has ſo done, he piſſes into the Mouth of the Lamb, or puts a little Piſs out of a Pot, or Vial, into its Mouth.

Garvaiſe Markham's *Way to recover a Lamb yeaned ſick.*--If a Lamb be yeaned ſick and weak, ſays he, the Shepherd ſhall fold it up in his Cloak, blow into the Mouth of it, and then drawing the Dam's Dugs, ſquirt Milk into the Mouth of it.

Of Forcing Ewes to love and take their Lambs.

This Author's Receipt to make a Ewe love, take, and ſuckle her Lamb, and to cauſe a puny Lamb to ſuck the Ewe.

IT is the Caſe with many Ewes, the younger Sort eſpecially, to refuſe ſuckling their Lambs; for as ſome forward Ewes will have a Lamb before they are quite a Year old, unleſs they are naturally of a very kind Breed, it is common for them to deſert their Lamb, and refuſe to let it ſuck. Of theſe forward Sort of Ewes, are thoſe that are always kept within Grounds, under a full Bite of Meat; for thoſe

that

that are fed on Commons and folded, ſeldom bring a Lamb under a Year and a Quarter, or a Year and Half old.---- A ſecond Sort of Ewes that refuſe to ſuckle their Lambs, are thoſe that are near ſtarved for Want of a ſufficient Quantity of Meat, and are ſuch that conſequently have not Strength, nor Milk, enough to maintain a Lamb. Theſe, by the Dictate of Nature, knowing their Inability to ſuckle their Lamb, butt it to keep it from ſucking, or deſert it.------A third Sort that refuſe to ſuckle their Lambs, are thoſe Ewes that have a gargetty, or ſore Bag, or Udder. Theſe feel ſometimes much Pain on a Lamb's taking the Teat in its Mouth, ſucking hard, and butting the Udder with its Head, to make it diſcharge its Milk, which in Courſe muſt hurt the Ewe, and cauſe her to keep off the Lamb from ſucking, or to deſert it.-----As to the firſt and ſecond Sort of Ewes, for obliging her to ſtand ſtill, and let the Lamb have the Freedom to ſuck what Milk it can get, we provide a long, roundiſh Stick, about an Inch or more thick, and ſix, eight, or ten Feet in Length, according as the Ewe has Strength to draw it along; the End of this Stick we tie to one of the hind Legs of the Ewe, between her Foot and the middle Joint of it, by a broad Piece of Tape or Liſt, allowing her but a Span's Breadth between the End of the Stick and her Leg, the better to prevent her turning her Body away too ſoon from the Lamb, and her going away too faſt from it; and why we tie the End of the Stick ſo high from her Foot is, becauſe it ſhould not job into the Ground. Thus we give ſuch untoward Ewes a Load at their Heels, for making them ſtand till their Lambs try to get Milk enough for maintaining them; and when we find the Ewes reconciled, and take their Lambs freely, we take away the Stick or Pole, and give them their Liberty. ------As to the third Sort of Ewes, that have ſore Bags, we take them into an Houſe, and anoint their Bags with one of thoſe proper Remedies I ſhall by and by make known; and till they are well recovered, and capable of ſuckling their Lamb with Eaſe, we give the Lamb Cows Milk warm, out of a Sucking-Bottle, or otherwiſe, till it can get Milk enough by ſucking the Ewe. The ſame Courſe we take to feed the Lambs of thoſe Ewes we faſten a Stick or Pole to, to keep them from deſerting their Lambs, and hindering their ſucking, till they can with Freedom get their Living by ſucking their Dams. Again, it is ſometimes the Fault of the Lamb; for it now and then happens, that the Lamb

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coming of a young Sheep, that never had a Lamb before, is either ſo fooliſh as to refuſe ſucking, or is ſo puny and weakly that it will not ſuck of itſelf: In this Caſe we bring the Ewe into an Outhouſe, or Barn, and there ſet her on her Arſe, while a Man forces the Lamb's Mouth to her Teat, and thus learns and cauſes it to ſuck; but this is better done by two Men than one, that one may hold the Ewe while the other holds the Lamb; and for doing the Work cleverly, we ſometimes let the Ewe out to feed, and bring her in again to ſuckle the Lamb; and every Night, for three or four Nights together, let them both lie together in the Houſe, till the Lamb gets ſtronger, and ſucks boldly.

Another Way practiſed in Hertfordſhire *to cauſe a Ewe to take her Lamb*------Is to put both the Ewe and her Lamb in a confin'd Place, and to put a Dog into the ſame; if the Dog will bark it is ſo much the better, for by this the Sheep will be provoked to fret and ſtamp with her Feet, and by ſo doing the Lamb will have an Opportunity to ſuck; which when it does, it is a Chance if the Ewe does not afterwards take it voluntarily.

The Receipt of J--- B---, *an ancient Author, how to make an Ewe love her Lamb.*----If the Ewe, ſays he, has Milk, and will not love her Lamb, put her into a narrow Place made of Hordes, or of ſmooth Trouſe, a Yard wide, and put the Lamb to her to ſuck it; and if the Ewe ſtrike or ſmite the Lamb with her Head, bind her Head with a Hay-Rope, or Cord, to the Side of the Pen; and if the Lamb will not ſtand ſide-long, call the Ewe, and give her a little Hay, and tie a Dog by her, that ſhe may ſee him, and this Fright will in a ſhort Space cauſe her to love her Lamb: If you have a Lamb dead, whereof the Dam has much Milk, flay the Lamb, and tie that Skin upon another Lamb's back, that hath a weak Dam with little Milk, and put the good Ewe and that Lamb together in a Pen, and in one Hour ſhe will love the Lamb, and then he may take the weak Ewe away, and put her in another Place, and by this Means he may ſave both hers, and the Lamb's Life.

Garvaiſe Markham's *Receipt to make a Ewe love her own Lamb, or any other Ewe's Lamb.*----If, ſays he, a Ewe grow unnatural, and will not take to her Lamb after ſhe hath yeaned it, you ſhall take a little of the Clean of the Ewe, which is the Bed in which the Lamb lay, and force the Ewe to eat it, or at leaſt chew it in her Mouth, and ſhe will fall to love it naturally; but if a Ewe has caſt her Lamb,

and

and you would have her to take to another Ewe's Lamb, you ſhall take the Lamb which is dead, and with it rub and daub the live Lamb all over, and ſo put it to the Ewe, and ſhe will take as natural to it, as if it were her own.

Adam Speed's *Receipt to make a Lamb take the Teat.*------ THE Lamb, ſays he, muſt be ſet on his Legs, as ſoon as may be, and ſhewed to the Dam's Teat, leſt by long delaying ſhe refuſe to cheriſh him as otherwiſe ſhe would do, and if the Weather be not very ſeaſonable, they muſt be warmly houſed; having ſet the Lamb on his Legs, and directed him to the Udder, make him take the Teat, and ſpirt ſome of the Milk in his Mouth, that finding the Sweetneſs of the Milk he may become the more familiar, and find an eaſy Way to it of himſelf: But before you do this, milk out the firſt Milk, which is called *Coloſtra*, or crude Milk, and very hurtful if taken by the Lamb, to put it into a Fever, or ſome ſuch like Diſtemper, eſpecially in a hot Seaſon. If when, ſays he, it is a proper Time, he trifles with the Teat, and refuſes to take it, anoint the Lips with Cream, or ſweet Butter, and by licking them his Appetite will be ſtirred up, to faſten on the Teat, and once pleaſed with the Sweetneſs of the Milk, will ſuck very kindly.

Of a Stop in the Teats of a Ewe.------THERE is ſometimes on Ewes Teats, ſays a certain Author, a ſmall Mote, or Scab, with a black Head hanging unto it, a hard, watry, ſtring-like Phlegm, which is within the Teat, which will ſtop the Milk; therefore the Shepherd muſt have a preventive Cure in Lambing Time.------To obſerve on what this Author ſays, I have to ſay, that ſuch a Scab, or rather Scale, is frequently found at the End of a young Sheep's Teat, I mean a Ewe that never had a Lamb before, and then the Shepherd pinches the Scab off by little and little till he clears the Teat; but by doing this, the Teat, with the Lamb's ſucking it, ſometimes becomes ſore; to cure which we only anoint with freſh Greaſe.

My Butcher's Account of Ewe Mutton, and when, and why it is out of Seaſon.------NOW, he ſays, that People ought to forbear buying and eating Ewe Mutton, when the Ewe is in Lamb, which the common Sort commonly are in *November*, *December* and *January*, for that the Breeding of the Lamb employs the Juices, or Gravy, of the Ewe, ſo that if ſuch a Ewe is kill'd, at this Time, its Fleſh will be dry and inſipid to that of a Wether's; and, he ſays, it's too common a Practice, with ſome Butchers, to kill Ewes, though they are near the Time of their Lambing.

Of Gelding LAMBS.

Of right and wrong Gelding of Lambs.

AS to the Gelding of Lambs, there is a great deal to be ſaid on its Management, becauſe many Lambs have been, and again may, be killed, or damaged, by ignorant Pretenders to it, not only in the Performance of the Action, but alſo by doing it at a wrong Age, and while the Lamb is in a bad Condition of its Body, *&c.* Wherefore, that my Reader may have an ample Account of this moſt neceſſary Work, I ſhall be ſo copious on explaining it, as to recite the different Words of ſeveral Authors, relating to the ſame, and then give my own Account how I have my Lambs gelded. And firſt,

What two French *Phyſicians (Authors of the Book, entitled,* La Maiſon Ruſtique*) ſays to the Gelding of Lambs.*-------A WISE Shepherd, ſay theſe two ancient Authors, will not geld his Lambs, till they be between five and ſix Months old; and for gelding them he ſhall uſe the Means ſet down in the Gelding of Calves; on which, they expreſs themſelves in theſe Words.-------In the Morning, before going to the Field, the Calves ſhall be gelded, and that before they be two Years old, and not after; for Calves grow the more when they are gelded in the Time of their Growth, becauſe thereby their Bodies are made the more moiſt. When they are gelded, in Reſpect of their Pain and Grief, there ſhall be given them Hay, ſmall-ſhredded, and mingled with Bran, until they come again to their former Stomachs and Appetites. They muſt not be gelded, when it is either very hot, or very cold, or in the Old of the Moon.---So far the *French* Authors.

What an Engliſh *Author ſays of gelding Lambs with Claſping Irons.*----VARRO, ſays he, is of Opinion, that to geld Lambs, the beſt Time is when they are five Months old; but he adds, that, in his Opinion, it is better done at ſix Weeks, or two Months old; for that then there is the leaſt Danger. The Manner of Gelding moſt ſecurely is, ſays he, to take the Cod between your Fingers, and having ſlit one Side, draw the Stone forth, and with a Stick graſp faſt the Sinew; having a ſearing Iron ready, ſear off the Stone, and ſo ſerve the other; after which put up the Sinew cloſe, on which the Stones *hung*, anointing the Cod well with Butter, mixt with Salt;

gelding

gelding them in the Wane of the Moon.--Now, how wide, and how near, theſe Authors and I are from, or to, the Mark, the following Account will ſhew.

What an Engliſh *Author ſays of Gelding Lambs with Knife and Teeth.*------THE Age of Cutting, ſays he, is from three to nine Days old, after which, they are rank of Blood, which will fall into the Cod in Cutting, and there lie and kill them; to prevent which, put, ſays he, a little Powder of Roſin into the Cod, and that will dry up the quarry Blood. A ſure Way, adds he, of cutting, is to let one hold the Lamb, between his Legs, on his Lap, and turn the Lamb on its Back, holding all his Feet upright together. If you ſee black Spots in his Flanks, do not cut him, for he is then rank of Blood and will ſurely die. Let the Cutter hold the Tip of the Cod in his left Hand, and with a ſharp Penknife cut the Top thereof, an Inch long, quite away; then with his Thumb, and his two fore-Fingers, of both Hands, ſlip the Cod, ſoftly down, over the Stones; and then with his Teeth, holding the left Stone in his Mouth, he is to draw it ſoftly out, as long as the String is, then draw forth the other Stone in like Manner; ſpit in the Cod, and anoint the Flanks on both Sides of the Cod, with freſh Greaſe, and the Work is finiſhed.-----This is a good Way of gelding Lambs, yet is ſomewhat different from my Practice.

The Hertfordſhire *Way of Gelding Lambs, by drawing out their Stones with a Man's Teeth.* ------ As to the Time of gelding Graſs Lambs, I ſhall decide it by and by; and now come to the Matter in Hand, *viz.* How we in *Hertfordſhire* geld our Lambs. Firſt, One Man holds the Lamb's Back cloſe to his Stomach, while he ſtands upright, with the Lamb's four Legs in his Hand, that he muſt keep very tight, as well as its Body, taking care that the Lamb, while its Stones are drawing, does not throw its Head back in his Face, for that the Vehemency of the Pain will certainly force it to ſtruggle with all its Might: And withal the Gelder, that undertakes this Work, ſhould be one that has a good Set of Teeth, for when once he has taken ſufficient Hold of a Stone, he muſt not quit it till he has leiſurely drawn it quite out. Now, by this Poſture of holding the Lamb, the Gelder is not obliged to ſtoop, becauſe the Lamb's Stones are almoſt even with his Mouth. It is then he begins, and cuts a Bit of the Skin off the Tip of the Cod, for giving him Room to ſqueeze up the Stones, and draw them out with his Teeth; and when one is far enough out, he lays hold of

it with his Teeth, and pulls it by Degrees till he brings away the Stone. If it is a young Lamb that is thus gelt, the Strings generally come away with the Stones, as being tender and eaſily drawn; but if an old one, they ſometimes break, and then it is dangerous, becauſe they are apt to ganger; and what I call an old one, is one of about nine or ten Weeks of Age. Thus when the other Stone is drawn away, in the ſame Manner, the Lamb is put down on the Ground, for the Gelder to take hold of its Tail, which he does, and cuts a Bit off it, while the Lamb is ſtraining to get away. By thus Gelding the Lamb, ſome Blood is apt to ſettle in the wounded Part of the Cod, and there corrupt and ganger, or bleed too much. Now to prevent this, we cut off an End Bit of its Tail, for drawing off that Blood, that we think would have this ill Effect; and accordingly, I have all my Lambs gelt every Year in this Manner; and it is what is generally practiſed throughout the Counties of *Hertford*, *Bucks*, and *Bedford*.

Gelding Lambs at an early Age.------THERE is a Difference that ought to be regarded in the Gelding of Lambs, I mean a Difference between gelding a ſickly, puny Lamb, and a ſtrong, hale Lamb; for although they may both be of one and the ſame Age, yet their Conſtitutions may require a different Time of Gelding. Some ſtrong Lambs may be better gelt at a Week old, than other weak ones at a Fortnight old; for if a weak Lamb is gelt too ſoon, and the Weather very cold, its Life may be in Danger, when if it was older and ſtronger it might be done ſafely. If a Lamb is healthy and ſtrong at a Week old, and the Weather is not ſeverely cold and wet, ſuch a Lamb may be ſafely gelt, as at the beſt Age, becauſe when it is ſo young, the Strings of its Stones are ſhort, ſlender and weak, and therefore the drawing of them will not bring the Beaſt under that exquiſite Pain, as it will endure at a more advanced Age. On theſe Accounts there are two Extremes attending the Gelding of Lambs. If a very young, weak Lamb is gelt in hard Weather, if it does not die, it can hardly go for a little while, and when it does, it is in ſo ſtiff a Manner, that the Pain makes it pine, and grow lean, till Time and Food reſtore it; which Evil to prevent, we commonly geld them that are ſtrongeſt firſt, about a Week, or ten Days, or a Fortnight old; and if the Weather is extream cold, or wet, we houſe them for a Night, two or three in a Barn, or Outhouſe, keeping the Ewe abroad all Day to feed, and

at Night to keep Company with the Lamb. In the Vale of *Aylesbury* they commonly geld their Lambs in the Fold in a Morning, and then turn them out directly into the Field, with the Ewes. With us, in the Chiltern, we wrongly do it in an Evening, but the Vale Farmer is moſt in the right, becauſe the Heat of the Day ſucceeds the Gelding, and tends the more to the Lamb's Recovery. Some Farmers, in *Hertfordſhire*, make it a Rule with them, right or wrong, to geld all their Lambs at *Eaſter*, though ſome of them were lamb'd before *Candlemas*-Day, which makes them ten or eleven Weeks old; but I think this to be a wrong Way, as I ſhall, in my next Account of Gelding, make appear. On the contrary, I have had a Lamb gelt at two Days old, in the Month of *July*, but then the Weather was warm, and the Ewe had Plenty of Graſs and Milk, and the Lamb did well. I have heard that a Lamb has been gelt as ſoon as it has been clean lick'd by the Ewe, and ſuckled; but this I think is rather too ſoon. It is a Rule with me, not to let Lambs exceed a Fortnight or three Weeks of Age at lateſt, before I geld them, if the Weather is mild enough to admit of it, becauſe, as I ſaid, the Gelding them then does not puniſh, nor ſtunt their Growth, as if cut older.

Gelding Lambs at a late Age.——When Store, or Graſs Lambs are uncut, and ungelt, at a late Age, as at eight, or ten, or more Weeks old, it is the more dangerous gelding them, by drawing out their Stones with a Man's Teeth, becauſe their Strings are now long and large, and conſequently will give the Lamb the more Pain, and bring it under the greater Danger in Gelding; and the more, if the Weather is hot, and the Fly abroad, for then they may get to the wounded Part, blow it, breed Maggots, and ſpoil the Lamb. There is alſo another Danger attending cutting ſuch old Lambs: If the White Thorn is in Bud, Lambs are very apt to crop it; if they do, it will certainly breed blackiſh Spots about their Cods, and about their Flanks, and then ſuch Lambs muſt not be cut, leſt the Operation kills them, as it commonly does, for now their Blood is in an high Degree of Rankneſs. The Black Thorn comes out in Bloſſom firſt, but this, a little bitteriſh, is not ſo agreeable to Lambs, as the ſweeter Buds and Bloſſoms of the White Thorn, that buds in *April*, and flowers in *May*; therefore Lambs muſt not be gelt when they have begun to crop its Buds or Bloſſoms, but let to go uncut till *Michaelmas* or *Allhallontide*, and then it's beſt Gelding them by the Claſping and Searing Irons; for Gelding them then, by drawing out their Stones with a

Man's

Man's Teeth, is entirely improper. And ſo it is on Account of the Cuckoo Lamb, that is to ſay, a Lamb that is yeaned in *April* or *May*; for although this is a very young Lamb, yet gelding it, by cutting and drawing out the Stones, would endanger its Life by the Heat of the Weather, and the Fly, or by its cropping the White Thorn. Hence it is, that ſuch a late lamb'd Lamb is better ſuffered to go uncut till about *Michaelmas*-time, and then to geld it by the common Gelder, with Claſping and Searing Irons, as being now, as I ſaid, a much ſafer Way than to geld it by drawing its Stones with the Teeth.

How Lambs may be gelt ſo as to have an ill ſhapen Head and Horns.------THE Gelding of Lambs directly checks the Growth of their Head and Horns; therefore, the younger Lambs are gelt, the leſs Horns they'll have. If then a Lamb is gelt at a Week or Fortnight old, it will cauſe it to have a thin, ſhort, and what we in *Hertfordſhire* call a Snail-Horn, and much of a Ewe's Head, which we deem an unſhapen Head and Horn, therefore not ſo handſome, nor ſaleable, as if gelt older; I mean, not till it is a Month or ſix Weeks old.

How Lambs may be gelt ſo as to have a handſome Head and Horns.-----THERE are Extremes, as I ſaid, in the Gelding Management: If a Lamb is gelt too ſoon it gives it an unſhapen Head and Horns; the ſame, if a Lamb is gelt too old. The firſt I have aſſigned a Reaſon for, and as to the ſecond, I have to ſay, that if a Lamb is gelt about ſix Weeks old, it is of a right Age, for giving it an handſome Head and Horns: But if the Gelding is let alone till it is ten or twelve Weeks old, the Lamb then will have too much of a Ram's Head and Horns; for a thick Ramiſh Head and Horns are no more agreeable to a Wether Lamb, then a ſlender Ewe Head and Horn is. No Sheep have handſomer Heads and Horns than thoſe that come out of the Weſt Country, becauſe they are very curious People on this very Account, by taking Care not to geld their Lambs too ſoon, nor too late, by which they avoid giving their Lambs too ſmall, and too thin a Horn, and too large a Ramiſh one; and this is one Reaſon why they ſell their Sheep for the beſt Prices.

The ill Effects of gelding a Lamb too late.------BY letting a Lamb remain ungelt ten or twelve Weeks, or Half a Year, as ſome do, it ſubjects them not only to acquire a Ramiſh Head and thick Horns, but alſo damages a Ram much on *Account of* hindering its getting Fleſh and Fattening; for if *they are ſuffered* to remain with their Stones till thoſe Times,

they are apt to ride one another, and are alſo ſubject by this Means to have ſore Heads, by frequently fighting, which likewiſe hinders their Thriving and Fattening.

Why the Stones of Lambs are better drawn out with their Strings, than to draw the Stones, cut the Strings, and leave them in the Lamb.------I SHOULD not have taken Notice of this, had it not occaſioned a Diſpute between ſome Perſons, who ſay, that when a Lamb's Stone is drawn juſt free of the Cod, the String of it ſhould be cut and parted from the Stone, becauſe by ſo doing the Lamb ſuffers the leſs Pain, and conſequently will feed fat the ſooner; but for my Part, I am of a contrary Opinion, for although a Lamb ſuffers Pain by drawing out the Stone with its Strings, yet if the Operation is done in a Workmanlike Manner, at a right Age, in moderate Weather, the Pain does ſo little Harm, that it may be hardly called a Damage; a Lamb, whoſe Stones were drawn in *March*, fully recovered of its Wounds in three Days Time; but if the Strings are thus cut, and left behind in the Lamb, they will prove a frequent Provocation to its riding and perhaps fighting other Lambs, and thereby their Thriving will be much hindered, either as a Lamb or a Sheep.

Why a gelt Lamb is more profitable than an ungelt one.---- BY gelding a Lamb at a proper Age, it will thrive faſter than a Ram, or uncut Lamb, not only for the foregoing Reaſons, but alſo becauſe there will be a Lump of Fat between the Legs of it, which a Ram Lamb has not, and which will cauſe it to ſell the better to the Butcher, and to the Butcher's Cuſtomer. Lambs are better gelt than let alone, becauſe, if they are not gelt, they'll run rank-headed and much into Horn, which leſſens the Nouriſhment of their Bodies. Beſides which, they are very apt to be troubled with the Fly at the Root of their Horns, and have ſore Heads; nor are they ſo ſaleable as gelt Lambs are; nor will a Ram Lamb fat ſo ſoon, and on ſo little Meat as a gelt Lamb, and the leſs, for their fighting with, and riding one another.

The Caſe of an ignorant Farmer, who had his Lambs gelt at a wrong Time, by drawing their Stones out with Teeth, which occaſioned the Death of three, and had like to have killed all the reſt. -----Ramming Time, with Store Sheep, I mean, ſuch that go and feed on Commons, or Downs, or in Fallow Fields, and are folded every Night, begins with us in *Hertfordſhire* about *Auguſt*, and ends about *Michaelmas*, when theſe Sort of Ewes have generally done taking Ram, except a few that may take Ram between *Michaelmas* and *Allhallontide*. Wherefore, if a Perſon is ſo imprudent as to geld

Lambs

Lambs in the Ramming Time, it is a Chance if they don't die; yet I have known two Inſtances of ſuch Imprudence: One was committed by a Farmer's employing one of his Labourers, or what we in *Hertfordſhire* call Days-men, to geld ſeveral of his Lambs, on the 24th Day of *Auguſt*, when their Flanks were full of Spots, and their Blood full rank; notwithſtanding which, the Lambs Cods were cut, and their Stones drawn out by the Teeth of the Gelder; but the Conſequence proved how wrong this Procedure was, for all the Lambs were ſwelled, in a ſad Condition, between their Legs and about their Belly, which brought on a Sort of Mortification; but by the Application of a proper Unguent, all were cured, except one, and that died on the 5th Day of *September* following.-----I alſo knew ſuch another ſilly Action done by a young Farmer, who had more Money than Wit, elſe he would not have had a Parcel of Lambs gelt in the Ramming Seaſon, when they begun to be Rammiſh, for they were ſpotted about their Cods, and in high Rankneſs of Blood. I think out of ſeven that he gelt, by having their Stones drawn out by a Man's Teeth, three of them died. Which Caſes ought to warn all my Readers concern'd in the Breeding of Store-Sheep, againſt ſuch wrong Management.

Why Slitting, or Cutting, the Cod of a Lamb a-croſs, to let out the Stones, is a ſafer Way of Gelding, than to cut an entire Piece of Skin from off the Tip of the Cod.--------THIS Opinion I heard a Surgeon maintain, but I never ſaw it practiſed. The Reaſon he gave for it was this, that the Wound would ſooner heal when ſo made, than when an entire Piece of Skin is cut off the Cod. But our Objection to this is, that as we don't deſire the Wound to heal ſo faſt, but that it may have a regular Time to ſuppurate, we think a too ſudden Healing of it, may incloſe extravaſated Blood, cauſe the Wound to break out again, and thus make bad worſe; wherefore we make no more to do, in our Way of cutting off an entire Piece of the Cod, than either to ſpit on the Wound, as ſoon as the Stones are drawn out, or, as ſome do, to put a little Bit of Hog's Lard into it, or, as others do, to thruſt a ſmall Matter of Salt into it, by any of which, we think the Wound is kept from feſtering, or gangering; but if it ſhould do amiſs, as ſometimes it has done, by gelding a Lamb at a wrong Age, or in too weak a Condition, or in a ſevere cold or wet Time, it is only making Uſe of the following Salve, or Ointment, that has cured many Beaſts, as it did the Sheep I next write of.

The Difference between Gelding ſtunted Lambs, and well fed thriving Lambs.--------About the 22d of *March*, 1747-8, my Ploughman gelt mine and my Neighbour's Lambs. Mine were well fed, thriving ones, becauſe the Ewes and they were kept in Turnips, and Hay; while my Neighbour's were kept on a Common, and now and then in an Orchard with only a little Hay. The Conſequence of which was, that when mine were gelt, their large Stones drew out by the Man's Teeth very eaſily, and brought with them all their Strings, as they were ſmall and tender: But when he draw'd the Stones of my Neighbour's ſtunted Lambs, they were ſmall, and their Strings large and tough, ſo that they broke in Drawing, which made their Gelding neither ſafe nor ſound.

CHAP. VIII.

Of MEDICINES, *or* REMEDIES, *to cure wounded or hurt* SHEEP *or* LAMBS.

The Caſe of a Hertfordſhire *Farmer, who in a Paſſion threw one of his folding Sheep againſt the Ground, with ſuch Violence that he broke off one of its Horns, and how he cur'd it.*

THIS Farmer lives ſo near me, that ſome of his Fields join mine, and I know him to be a very paſſionate Man, an Inſtance of which may appear by the following Account. Having a Sheep to drive that was an untoward one, he faſtened a Cord about one of its Horns, and tried to lead it; but ſo it happened, that as he led it, the Sheep proved ſullen, and would not go on to his Deſire. This made him fall into ſuch a Paſſion, that he took the Sheep, and flung it againſt the Ground with ſuch Violence, that he broke off one of its Horns at its very Root; however he ſoon cured the Wound with the following Salve or Ointment.

How to make a moſt excellent Salve, or Ointment, that cures moſt Wounds in Sheep, Lambs, or other Cattle, and at the ſame Time prevents the Damage of Flies: By this Author.---- TAKE a Quarter of a Pound of Hog's Lard, a Quarter of a Pound of Horſe Turpentine, and a Quarter of a Pound

of Soap; theſe boil together, and when cold, it may be made into a Plaiſter for Uſe: Accordingly this Farmer applied a Plaiſter of this Salve to the Place where the Horn was broke off; but the Sheep ſtraying away for ſome Time, loſt the Plaiſter: When he had found it, he diſcovered a large Parcel of Maggots that had bred in the Hole of its Head where the Horn was broke off, which to get out and cure, he poured ſome Train or Fiſh Oil into it, and it ſoon obliged the Maggots to come out, and thoſe that did not were kill'd by it. The Farmer then made a ſecond Plaiſter with the ſame Salve, and it fully anſwered his Deſign, for it made a perfect Cure of the Sheep's Head.----This, or any other Medicine, that has a Mixture of Turpentine in it, will heal and keep off the Fly. But others make uſe of the following one, as that which will keep off the Fly from a Wound beyond all other Antidotes whatſoever.

A Medicine much in Uſe with this Author, and many other Farmers in Hertfordſhire, *for curing a wounded Sheep or Lamb, and for effectually keeping off the Damage of Flies.*---MIX Train Oil with Oil of Turpentine, more of the former and leſs of the latter; when you uſe it, dip a Feather in the Mixture, and beſmear the Outſide of the Wound, and it will keep off the Fly, while the Wound is healing.

A Receipt how to make a Salve for curing a Sheep or Lamb that has been bitten by a Dog, or otherwiſe wounded: By this Author.----TAKE equal Parts of Tar and Nerve-Oil, and mix them with a little Oil of Turpentine, into a Salve, which keep conſtantly by you in a Gallipot. It will cauſe a Wound to digeſt and ſuppurate, and heal by Degrees.---Nerve-Oil is to be bought at the Apothecaries, and is of a greeniſh Colour.----This Compoſition, or Salve, like the foregoing Salve or Ointment, are excellent Sorts, and will duly anſwer their Ends, if timely and judiciouſly applied; the former may be applied either hot or cold, but this is commonly made uſe of cold.----Thus any ungelt, or gelt Sheep or Lamb, that is bit by a Dog, or hurt by Thorns, or by any other Accident, may be cured by theſe Remedies, that few or none exceed: Therefore it highly concerns all Farmers, Graziers, Shepherds, and others concern'd in keeping Sheep and Lambs, never to be without one or all of theſe Medicines; not only for the Cure of wounded Sheep and Lambs, but for curing any other hurt or wounded Beaſt; becauſe a timely Application of ſuch a proper Remedy, may ſave the Life of the Creature: And

for

for a further Account of theſe excellent Salves my future Works, to ſhew, how by the Us them, the deſperate Wound of a Colt was cur

A Soot Salve to heal a Sheep or a Lamb's keep off the Fly.----A BEAST in Summer, is ca liable to be ſpoiled by the Fly, that will blow the wounded Part, and breed Maggots, to the Deſtruction of Sheep, Lambs, and Fawns, *&c.* Now to defend ſuch wounded Part from the Damage of the Fly---Take Soot, Tar, and thick Cream, mix them well together, and anoint the Wound therewith; and it will both heal it, and keep the Fly away.

To make a Salve that will reduce a Swelling in a Sheep or Lamb.---TAKE Linſeed-Oil, Ointment of Marſhmallows, and Hog's Lard, melt theſe together over a gentle Fire, and when melted, take them off, and add Powder of Red-lead, which ſtir in and mix well together for an Ointment; and when it is to be made uſe of, it muſt be heated, and well rubb'd in upon the ſwell'd Part, either about a Wound, or on a bruiſed Place, before a hot Iron: Three or four Ounces of each of theſe, will make a Quantity for being a ready Salve upon an emergent Occaſion; for it is valuable for reducing a Swelling.

A Tobacco Ointment to dreſs a wounded Sheep with.---THIS Receipt I alſo propoſe to be a very good one, becauſe it is in Praiſe of the famous Tobacco Ointment, that is ſold at the Apothecaries; for to make this at home, is paſt the Skill of many, and I may add the Conveniency too. It has this Character by a Phyſician---That it cures Bruiſes, Wounds, though made with poiſon'd Arrows, Bitings of venomous Beaſts, old Sores, Ulcers, Fiſtulas, Cankers, Scabs, Itch, Tetters, Ringworms, Botches, Boils, Tumours, Apoſthumes; it ſcales Bones (if corrupted) without Inſtrument; taking away all Rottenneſs, dead Fleſh, and Putrefaction, and breeding good ſound Fleſh, performing, in thoſe Caſes, all the Intentions of Curing: So that there is no doubt of its being a very excellent Medicine for healing Wounds in Sheep and Lambs, or in any other Beaſt, as it is of a very cleanſing balſamick Nature; conſequently it muſt be of very great Service for curing the venomous Bites of Dogs, Hedgehogs, Shrewmice, *&c.* all which are common Enemies to the harmleſs, and moſt uſeful of all Creatures, Sheep: For as they are conſtantly expoſed, both in the Fold, and out of it, to the woolfiſh Nature of Dogs and Foxes, and other

Vermin, ſuch an Ointment muſt be of a conſiderable Conveniency to have it always in Readineſs, for being applied to a Wound in due Time.

A Receipt to make an excellent Salve for breaking any Swelling in a Sheep or Lamb, and to heal it.----THIS Salve is of more than ordinary Value for curing a Sheep's Bag or Udder, which is very apt to ſwell, ganger, and ſometimes break, by hard Driving and Surfeiting, by Foulneſs of Blood, by Bruiſing, *&c.* ſometimes to the ſpoiling of the Sheep, and ſtunting the Lamb, if the Malady is not taken care of in Time, and a proper Remedy applied; the Neglect of which, has occaſioned ſome Ewes to have Part of their Bag or Udder, cut part or in the whole off, before it could be cured, though it might eaſily have been prevented, had Care been taken accordingly: However, if the Bag is to be broke, this Salve will do it, and heal it by repeated Dreſſings.---- Take Butter freſh from the Churn, before any Salt is put to it, a Quarter of a Pound; or, in the Room of it, take Sallad-Oil to the Quantity of a Quarter of a Pint; five Ounces of Horſe-Turpentine, ſix Ounces of Honey, three Ounces of Bees-Wax, two Ounces of Roſin, and one of Red-Lead; put the Turpentine, Roſin, Wax, and Honey, into a glazed earthen Pipkin, and heat them over a gentle Fire with good ſtirring, till they are well incorporated; then put to them the Butter and powder'd Red-Lead, and boil it on a Wallop or two, and it is done: When cold, put it into a Pot, and keep it for Uſe.

Doctor Bracken's *common Wound-Ointment, to have always in a Readineſs for curing Wounds in Man or Beaſt.*--- TAKE (ſays he) Roſin and *Burgundy*-Pitch, of each half a Pound; freſh *May*-Butter, or, for Want of that, common freſh Butter, clarify'd, two Pounds; Bees-Wax two Ounces, common Turpentine four Ounces, *French* Verdigreaſe in fine Powder, ſix Drams; melt the hardeſt Subſtances firſt, then add the Butter; and when it is taken from the Fire, ſtir in the Verdigreaſe by little and little, and ſo keep doing till the Whole is near cold, or, at leaſt, till it is of ſuch Conſiſtence as will hinder the Powder from ſinking to the Bottom of the Pot.---The excellent Quality (ſays he) of this Ointment is, that it will cure any freſh Wound either in Man or Beaſt, provided the ſame has not touch'd the Vital; but if ſo, it is what we term a mortal Wound: To which he adds, that this Ointment may ſerve as a general Wound-Ointment for all Sores or Wounds, in

any Part of the Body of a Beaſt; for it will not eaſily ſuffer fungous, ſpungy, or Proud-Fleſh, to grow, as is common when Ointments have too much Oil or Greaſe in their Compoſition; yet if the Wound happens to put forth Proud-Fleſh, as is common to old Sores, you may waſh it with a few Feathers tied together, and dipt in a Wound-Water.

A Wound-Water to dreſs a Sheep or Lamb with.----A WOUND-Water is more than ordinary neceſſary to be kept always in a Readineſs, both by Farmers and Shepherds, and others concerned in keeping Sheep and Lambs, as being of excellent Service to penetrate into a Wound, whoſe Bottom lies ſo deep, that a Salve cannot preſently reach and come at it; as when a Sheep is bitten by the long Fangs of a large Dog, or by the Entrance of a large Thorn; or if it otherwiſe happens, as it too often does: In this Caſe, you may make uſe of any of the following Wound-Waters, to be applied as a Preparative for the better preparing Wounds to receive the Benefit of Salves or Ointments, or to cure them alone, or all together, by one of theſe Waters.---Take Allum and white Copperas, each two Drams, two Drams of Camphire, and four Ounces of Spirit of Wine; boil the firſt two in a Gallon of Water five Minutes, then take it off the Fire, and add the Camphire, firſt diſſolved in the Spirit; when cold, bottle up the Liquor for Uſe, and when it is wanted apply it warm.

A ſecond Receipt to make a Wound-Water.----MIX Aloes, Allum, White-Vitriol, Camphire, with Bole-Armoniack, which beat into Powder, in Quantity half an Ounce of each; boil theſe in two Quarts of Lime-Water in an earthen Veſſel, three quarters of an Hour: When cold and ſettled, pour off the fine Part from the thick Part, and keep it in a Bottle for Uſe.---Now to make the Lime-Water, take this Direction: Pour a Quart of Water upon a Pound of quick and unſlack'd Lime; let it ſtand all Night, and next Morning decant the clear Water for Uſe. Others make it by putting a Pound of unſlack'd Lime into a Gallon of Water, which, when ſtirred together, and let ſtand long enough to ſettle, the clear Part muſt be pour'd off, and kept in a Bottle for Uſe.

To cure Boils, Apoſthumes or Ulcers, or any running Sore. ----IF (ſays an Author, in the Vermin-Killer Book) they be not drawn to come to a Head, you muſt oblige them to it, by mixing Wheat-Flour, the Yelks of Eggs, and Tar together, and applying them Plaiſter-wiſe to the Part grieved;

grieved; then prick or lance them, ſo that the Corruption may come away.----Then take one Ounce of Turpentine, Burnt-Salt a like Quantity, and as much Honey; one Ounce of Roſin, and a Quarter of an Ounce of Galbanum: Make them into a Salve over the Fire, and apply it Plaiſter-wiſe to the grieved Part, anointing it firſt with Ointment of Tobacco.

Why all Farmers, Graziers, Shepherds, and others, ſhould have always by them Oil of Turpentine.----It is certain that a Farmer, more than any Tradeſman, is liable to receive Damage by Sickneſs, Wounds, and by other Accidents that may befal his Cattle, as he keeps greater Numbers of them than any other Perſon does; wherefore he ought not, whether he be Farmer, Grazier, Shepherd, or any other Perſon that is concern'd in keeping Sheep or other Beaſts, to be without ſome Oil of Turpentine by him: To aſſign Reaſons for which, I don't know that I can do it better, than to recite the Words of Doctor *Bracken*, in. his Second Volume, p. 195, where he ſays, that all the fam'd Catalogue of never-failing Balſams, Ointments, Spirits, *&c.* do not exceed the ſovereign Virtue of the common Oil of Turpentine, for the eaſing and conſolidating divided Fibres, which is what we call healing green Wounds; and is ſo neceſſary, that no Salve in the Univerſe can perform a Cure ſooner than Oil of Turpentine.---And accordingly, for my own Part, I can ſay, I am never without it, leſt I want it for my Sheep, Lambs, Hogs, Cows, Horſes, or other Beaſts; and particularly for curing the Foot of a Sheep, that I have now and then cut by a Flint or other ſharp Stone, as I live in a ſtony Country, and they ſubject to it in driving to and from the Fold: It is then I make uſe of, in the firſt Place, this Oil of Turpentine, which, by its thin Body, will enter to the Bottom of a Wound, where a Salve or Ointment cannot, and there conſolidate the Part, keep it from feſtering, and heal it ſafely by Degrees, if Dirt and Gravel can be kept out. And not only is this excellent Remedy ſo ſerviceable to Beaſts, but alſo to the human Body; to our Servants eſpecially, who are more than ordinary expoſed to the Want of this cheap and ready Medicine, by their having accidental Cuts and Bruiſes of Hatchets, Axes, Bills, Cutting-Hooks, and Sickles, *&c.* in felling of Trees, making of Hedges, Reaping, Mowing, cutting of Peaſe and Beans, by Kicks of Horſes, and by other Incidents. And indeed, its Virtues are now ſo well known, that many poor labouring

ing Men have Wit enough to make this Oil or Spirit of Turpentine, their chief Remedy in the before-mentioned Caſes; for that this Turpentine is contrary to the Nature of greaſy and other fat Applications, that are apt to breed fungous and Proud-Fleſh, and foul both Bones and Tendons, *&c.* where Wounds are deep.

Of SHEEP *and* LAMBS *being wounded by their taking Thorns, Splinters, Gravel,* &c. *into their Feet and Legs; and of the ſeveral Sorts of Remedies to cure them.*

SHEEP and Lambs in an incloſed Country, are more than ordinary expoſed to the taking of Thorns, Splinters, Gravel, *&c.* into their Feet and Legs; and this the more or leſs, as they are inclin'd to leap over Gates, Stiles, or Hurdles, or break through Hedges, and get into Woods or Spinneys, among Briars, Buſhes, Stumps of Trees, and the like; or by taking Gravel into their Feet, which folding and other Sheep are much liable to, as they travel every Day to and from the Fold; by which they frequently become lame, pine, and loſe much of their Fleſh, and ſometimes die, if not ſpeedily cured: When this is the Caſe, which is known by the Sheep's going lame, or being ſwell'd in the wounded Part, it is then high Time to ſearch for diſcovering the Ail; and if a Thorn or Splinter is run in, broke, and remains in the Place, it ſhould be pulled out if it can be done; if it cannot, then a drawing Plaiſter muſt be applied, made by ſome of the following Receipts.

A Receipt to make a Salve for drawing out Thorns, Splinters, &c.----THIS is an antient Receipt, handed down from Author to Author; which is to take black Soap, and mix chewed Nut-Kernels with it, for making a Salve that muſt be applied to the Place where a Thorn, Splinter, Nail, or Gravel is got in, on a Linen Cloth, bound about with broad Tape; but then the Sheep muſt be kept from Dirt and Filth, or elſe there is little Hopes of its being cured.

A ſecond Receipt how to make a Salve for drawing out Thorns, &c.----ANOTHER Author thinking to mend the former Receipt, ſays, To black Soap add black Snails, which are to be beaten together in a Mortar till they are made a Salve of, and thus applied to the Wound.---To remark on theſe

theſe Receipts, I have to ſay, that theſe two are very different Receipts; however, I think it neceſſary to acquaint my Reader, that the black Snails here meant, are thoſe large naked Snails that are very like Horſe-Leaches, and live in Hedges, and in our Paſture-Grounds, and are what we in *Hertfordſhire* call Signals of rainy Weather, when we ſee them crawling on the Graſs.

A third Receipt to draw out a Splinter or Thorn.---If the Wound (ſays another) cannot be cut open with the Point of a Penknife to draw out the Splinter, Thorn, or Gravel, mix *Burgundy*-Pitch with Horſe-Turpentine, firſt anointing with a Mixture of Oil of Spike and Sallad-Oil; with this bind up the Part and keep it from Dirt.

The Hertfordſhire *Receipt to draw out a Thorn, or Splinter, or Gravel.*----It is common with us Farmers, to keep the Gall of a Barrow-Hog by us, which we preſerve by hanging up in a dry Room; others empty the liquid Part of it into a Gallipot, and tie it over with a Piece of Bladder, becauſe by this Method the Gall will keep moiſt a long Time, and become a Sort of Salve; whereas, by hanging the Gall up in the Air, it becomes dry too ſoon, and waſtes much. Now the Uſe of this Salve is this, when a Stub or Thorn is run into a Sheep or Lamb's Foot or Leg, and cannot be got out without drawing, that then ſome of this Gall-Salve is to be made Uſe of Plaiſter-wiſe, by applying it on a Piece of Bladder to the wounded Part, or for Want of Bladder, a Piece of Linen Cloth will do: This is ſuch a fierce Drawer, when applied to any Part of a human Body, for drawing out a Thorn or Splinter, that ſome Perſons can hardly bear it: However, it is an excellent Drawer as well as Healer.

A Piece of Adder's or Viper's Skin. its Power in drawing out a Thorn and ſheathing of Venom.----As I live in a chiltern, dry, hilly Country, that abounds with many incloſed Fields, and Woods, that are fenced in by Hedges, we have abundance of Adders and Vipers in them, perhaps more than in any one County of *England* beſides, which gives me and others an Opportunity to have their Skins at a cheap Rate; accordingly I, for my Part, am ſeldom or never without one or more by me, leſt I ſhould want it when I have moſt Occaſion for it, to draw out a Thorn or Stub from any Part of a human or Beaſt's Body, which it will do in ſuch a violent Manner that ſome think nothing exceeds it: The ſame Effect it has in drawing out the Venom of a Viper-

Viper-bite, or the Bite of a mad Dog, if timely enough applied: A wonderful Example of which I intend to give amongſt many others, in ſome of my future Works, as it was done in my Neighbourhood to the ſaving a Perſon's Life, who was bitten by a Viper; yet ſome are ſo timorous of making uſe of this excellent Remedy to draw out a Thorn, on Account of its forcible Attraction, that they are afraid it will induce a Flux of Humours to follow, and fall down on the Part.

To cure a Wound made by a Thorn, &c.----Firſt clip away the Wool very cloſe, then take Southernwood, which is a Plant that I always keep in my Garden; and ſo ſhould all Country Gentlemen, Farmers, and Graziers, for the Sake of its ſalubrious Qualities that are ſerviceable both to Men and Beaſts.----I ſay, take this green Plant and ſtamp it, then mingle it with Boar's Greaſe, and lay it to the Wound: This will both draw and heal.

A ſecond Receipt.----TAKE Boar's Greaſe, Vinegar, and Honey, and boil them together; then take the Powder of Roſin and Frankincenſe, and add to them; with this make a Plaiſter or Tent, as the Wound requires, warm it and lay it to it.----This is a ſpecial Salve to cure the Prick of a Thorn, Splinter, Nail, or a Wound made by Gravel.

A third Receipt.---OR you may make a Plaiſter with Wheat-Flour, Red-Wine, and Honey, and it will heal, and prevent feſtering.

Of Adders or Vipers biting SHEEP *or* LAMBS.

An Account of a Viper's biting a Sheep by its Udder or Bag, and how it was cured.

WRITING on this Subject, the Expreſſion of a certain Vertuoſo, or Publiſher of Intelligence, occurs to my Memory, as I was in his Company at *London* in the Year 1746, when I acquainted him that I intended, in ſome of my future Works, to write a ſhort Hiſtory on Vipers or Adders, Slow-worms, *&c.* upon which he replied, he thought this ſo foreign a Matter to Huſbandry-Affairs, that it ought not to have a Place in any Book of that Kind: A Tenet he ſeemed to maintain with ſuch Obſtinacy, that I was careleſs in arguing about it; elſe I could have told him, that it is an abſolute Piece of neceſſary Knowledge in Huſ-

bandry, to underſtand and know how to treat and cure a Viper's Bite in a Sheep, Horſe, Cow, or Dog, *&c.* which are all liable to be ſo ſerved by this venomous Creature. An Inſtance of which (among others that I could write of) I here preſent my Reader with, by telling him, there is a Common, lying at a Mile diſtance from my Houſe, known by the Name of *Hudnal-Common*; on which grow Buſhes, high Furze, and Fern, that afford a great Cover or Shelter, an Encouragement to Adders or Vipers for increaſing their Breed: And they accordingly increaſe every Year to that Degree, as engages a certain Viper-Catcher to come now and then to this Place for catching them; and for his better Conveniency of doing it, he lodges a few Days in a Houſe adjoining to the Common, where when he goes away, he leaves a little Parcel of Viper-Oil or Greaſe in a Gallipot, to be ready at all Times, for curing him, in caſe he or any other ſhould be bitten by a Viper. Now it happened, that a Sheep going and feeding, amongſt others, on this Common, it ſo provoked a Viper (I ſuppoſe by treading on it, or by being too near its young ones) that it bit the Sheep by its Bag or Udder, ſo furiouſly, that the Part preſently dreadfully ſwell'd to a very great Degree; this being diſcovered by the Owner of the Sheep, it put him into a great Confuſion what to do to cure his Sheep; but calling to mind that this Adder or Viper-Catcher, conſtantly left ſome Viper-Fat or Oil at a Houſe on this Common, he immediately went thither, and begg'd the People of the Houſe to give him ſome of it for curing his Sheep; and when he had it, he directly applied it, by rubbing it in ſoundly on the bitten Place, which ſoon brought down the Swelling by ſheathing the Venom, and, in a little Time, the Sheep was entirely cured. But as Viper-Fat or Oil is not to be met with every where, when this is not to be got, for a ſecond Receipt take the following one.

A ſecond Receipt.----As an Adder's or Viper's Fat is a moſt difficult Thing to be got, another effectual Remedy that may be eaſily and quickly had, muſt be a valuable one, and that is Sallad-Oil: Now this Oil ſhould not be made uſe of cold, becauſe it then will not have that thin Body that is full requiſite for this Cure; for which Reaſon, it ſhould be firſt heated a little over a Fire in order to bring it into a thinner Conſiſtence, for the thinner it is, the ſooner and further it will penetrate into the Wound; wherefore let the Oil be always applied warm, by rubbing and chafing it well in

in before a Chafing-diſh of Coals: But if the Sheep ſo bitten, is at ſome Diſtance from the Houſe, you may heat an Iron Pad red-hot, and carry it in a Smoothing-Iron Box to the Place, and there frote and rub in the Oil with a diligent Hand, before the hot Iron, for ſome Time; this done, give the Sheep two or three Spoonfuls of Sallad-Oil cold, and in about an Hour's Time, repeat the rubbing in more Oil, and giving a little more within-ſide; this will undoubtedly, next to Adder-Fat, effect a Cure, if Time is not too much elapſed: For if the Application of a proper Medicine is not made uſe of before the Venom has much infected the Blood, the Fat, or Oil of Vipers, nor any other outward Remedy is capable of curing it; the Danger of which makes it neceſſary to pour ſome Oil down the Throat of the Sheep, that both the outward and the inward Remedies may the better ſecure the Creature's Recovery: Yet if an Hour, two, or three be paſt, after the Sheep or Lamb has been bitten, don't deſpair, but make uſe of theſe Directions; for I have known a Viper-bite cured in a Man and a Boy after they were bit and ſwell'd for ſome Time, chiefly by theſe outward Applications; whoſe particular Caſes, with many others, relating to Vipers, I hope to oblige the World with.

A third Receipt for the Bite of a Viper or Adder, or Slow-worm.—If a Sheep's Udder is bit by any of theſe, you may make uſe of the following Remedy:—Take Oil of Scorpions and Vinegar, with Plantane Leaves and Bole Armoniack, made thick like a Salve, and anoint the bitten Part with it three times a Day.

A fourth Receipt.—Take Sanguis Draconis, a little Barley-Meal, and the White of an Egg, which beat together, and lay it Plaiſter-wiſe on the Sore, renewing it once in twelve Hours, ſay ſeveral Authors.—But I am of Opinion, that the Olive Oil drove into the Sheep's Udder by a hot Iron, and Oil given inwardly, is the beſt Remedy except Viper-Fat: For even a hot Iron alone has ſuch an attractive Quality, that if it is immediately applied hot enough to ſuch a Bite, it is a Remedy of itſelf.—But for a Bite of a Viper or Slow-worm, I could enumerate and give an Account of ſeveral other Remedies, without being beholden to ancient Authors for what they have wrote on this Subject: However, at preſent, I muſt forbear to do it, becauſe it will not be agreeable to my Purpoſe in this Work.

The Nature and Deſcription of the SHREW-MOUSE, *with an Account of the Damage they do by biting* SHEEP *by the Noſe, and how to cure the Wound.*

How the Shrew-Mouſe wounds a Sheep or Lamb.

THIS Creature is rightly named the Shrew-Mouſe, for where it gives a Sheep or Lamb a Bite, it is a ſhrewd one indeed, as its Effects plainly ſhew. I have them about my Paſture-Grounds in the Chiltern Country, and the ſame they have in their Meadow Vale Grounds; but they are more in Number in the latter, than in the former, becauſe here are the moſt grazing Grounds: And it is here that the Shrew-Mouſe is in the leaſt Danger of Diſturbance from Plow and Harrow; which gives it a large Opportunity to increaſe its Breed. In *July*, 1747, one of my Mowers had very near cut one of theſe with his Scythe, as it was running along the Graſs. They are eaſily known from any other Mouſe by their blackiſh Colour, Hog-like Head, and their little Tail; which renders them ſo like a Mole in Shape and Make, that, to a Stranger, it might ſeem a little Mole; yet does more Miſchief than ſome of the larger Sort of Savage Beaſts: For this Shrew-Mouſe takes a Delight to wound a Sheep or Lamb in its Noſe, by biting it ſo ſharp and deep as to make it bleed, and then it has its Deſire, for it ſucks the Blood, and for the Sake of the Blood, he thus wounds the Sheep in this very Part, and partly becauſe it does not love to bite where the Wool is; and when he thus bites, the Wound preſently ſwells, and would increaſe its Swelling till it kills the Sheep, if a proper Remedy is not timely applied. A Shrew-Mouſe never bites a Sheep by the Noſe while it is feeding on Plow'd-Land, becauſe the rough Earth is not agreeable to its Nature, which makes it always lie near and about Paſture and Meadow Grounds, for getting its Living with what Worms and other Inſects it can find in them, and in Hedges. The Bite of the Shrew-Mouſe is little leſs venomous than the Bite of an Adder or Slow-worm; for, in two Hours time after it has bit a Sheep's Noſe, the Sheep's Head has ſwell'd, as the following Story ſhews.

How

How a Sheep was bitten by a Shrew-Mouſe, and its Management.—In the great Mead of *Billington*, lying near *Leighton* in *Bedfordſhire*, a Sheep was bitten on the Noſe, that ſo venom'd and ſwell'd it, as to cauſe the Head of the Sheep to be near as big again as it was at other Times, and this in three Hours Time; ſo that had not the Shepherd diſcover'd it, the Beaſt muſt in courſe have died; for ſeveral Sheep have been thus kill'd by the Shrew-Mouſe before a timely Remedy could be applied. This Sight made the Shepherd make haſte home for procuring a Remedy that cured the Sheep: And for my Readers fuller Information, I ſhall, before I give him my Receipt to cure the Bite of a Shrew-Mouſe, offer him ſeveral that have been publiſhed by ancient Authors.

The firſt Receipt of an ancient Author to cure the Bite of a Shrew-Mouſe.—When you ſee (ſays he) that your Beaſt is bitten, then take an Awl and prick it up and down as far as it is ſwell'd, and no further; then take the Earth where Wains and Carts do much uſe to go (but let it be the drieſt of it) and blend it with White-Wine Vinegar, and it will preſently aſſwage and heal the Swelling.

A ſecond Receipt.----Says another ancient Author, to mend the former, Take the Earth of a Cart-Wheel, and the Earth of a Swallow's Neſt, and pound them together, and blend them with old Urine, and make them into a Salve; with which anoint the bitten Place, and it will cure it.

A third Receipt.----First open the Skin and let out the Venom; and if it is ſwell'd, then beat Salt and Vinegar together, and bathe the ſore Place with it; then boil ſome Herbs in old Urine, and with the Liquor bathe round the Sore; and if it chance to break, you muſt then take Barley-Meal, and lay it on a Fire-Shovel, and burn it black brown, and then pound it to Powder, and lay it in Steep in White-Wine Vinegar all Night, and put to it a little of the Juice of Dill, and blend them together, and anoint the Place till it be well; and that (ſays he) will be quickly.

A fourth Receipt.----You muſt (ſays this Author) take Parſley-Seed, and boil it in White-Wine, Sallad-Oil, and Hog's Greaſe; alſo take ſome Powder of Burnt-Allom, and blend in it; make it all like a Salve, and anoint the Sore with it till it is well.----So far ancient Authors.

The Hertfordſhire *and* Buckinghamſhire *Way of curing a Sheep or Lamb bitten by the Shrew-Mouſe.*----THERE is no Beaſt of its Bigneſs, bites more venomous than a Shrew-Mouſe; for where it makes but a little Bite, the Part will ſwell immediately and much. A Sheep bitten by the Noſe in hot Weather, when the Creature's Blood is at the thinneſt, will (as I have obſerved) ſwell directly into a conſiderable Bigneſs; ſo that if a Remedy is not at hand, a Sheep may ſoon be loſt: Therefore to ſtand pounding or boiling of Ingredients, or to let them ſtand ſteeping all Night, is not ſo quick a Medicine, as when we take ſome Sallad-Oil, and with it rub the Noſe of the Sheep or Lamb ſoundly; this done, we forbear a ſecond Anointing till an Hour is paſt, and then we rub into the Part Adder's-Tongue Ointment; and about two Hours after, we uſe the Oil again, and next the Ointment, as being loth to truſt, in this dangerous Caſe, to one Remedy alone: And when we thus anoint the Noſe with the Oil and the Ointment, we alſo rub them well all over the Head of the Sheep or Lamb, to check the Power of the Venom, and prevent its ſpreading. ---But if a Sheep has been bitten ſo long before a Diſcovery is made and a Remedy applied, that the Head of the Beaſt is much ſwell'd, we then lance it with a Penknife; and when a ſufficient Inciſion is made, we put in Oil, and rub the outward Part of the Wound with ſome of the Ointment. On this Account a Shepherd's Care is proved; for if a narrow and timely Inſpection is not made among the Flock, a Sheep may die, as ſome have done.---And although I ſeem here to confine my Writing to the Shrew-Mouſe, as to its biting a Sheep or Lamb, yet it is reported, that this malign Ravager after his Prey, has bitten a Cow as ſhe lay down, by her Teat, ſuppoſed to ſuck her Blood, or her Milk; and that if this Mouſe goes over a Cow's or a Sheep's Back or Loins, ſhe cannot riſe.---In ſhort, it is my humble Opinion, that the Oil and the Ointment are the two beſt Medicines of all I have written of, and that none exceeds them, except the Fat or Oil of a Viper, which muſt be allowed to outdo all Remedies whatſoever, for curing the Bite of a Shrew-Mouſe, Viper, or mad Dog: But, as I ſaid, that is not to be had at a Pinch of Need, and this may. It therefore concerns all Farmers, and others concern'd in keeping Sheep, to have this Sweet-Oil, and this Adder's-Tongue Ointment always by them, as I have; not only

only for Sheep, but for curing Cows and other Beaſts: And that my Reader may know how to make this ſerviceable Ointment, is the Purport of the following Account of it.

Of the valuable Qualities of Adder's-Tongue Ointment, for curing SHEEP *of Hurts and Diſeaſes.*

How to make the famous Adder's-Tongue Ointment, its Uſes, and the Cures it performs.

THE Herb, Adder's-Tongue, is of ſuch general Uſe and Reputation in *Hertfordſhire*, *Buckinghamſhire*, and *Bedfordſhire*, that many Gentlemen, Yeomen, Farmers, and others, who are concern'd in keeping Cows, Sheep, and other Cattle, ſend far and near to have it gather'd in Meadows and Paſture-Grounds, where this excellent Vegetable flouriſhes in the Month of *May*, in thoſe Grounds that are ſhut up for mowing; for, at this Time of Year, it is in its moſt luxuriant Growth, Sap, and Vertue, and may be known from any other Graſs or Plant in the Field by its top Part, which reſembles an Adder's Tongue. In dry Weather, this Plant comes up thin and ſhort, which makes it difficult to get enough of it: But in wet Seaſons, I generally have ſo much of it growing in my Paſtures, that People come at a conſiderable Diſtance to gather it; and when it is gathered, we ſtamp it in a Mortar, and then wring out ſo much Juice as we think will anſwer to a Pound of freſh unſalted Butter, for ſuch it muſt be to make this excellent Ointment.---Put the Juice and Butter into a Braſs or other Veſſel, and boil them together about a Quarter of an Hour; then pour all into a Pewter, or broad earthen glazed Pan, to cool; and when it is cold, we take the Butter or fat Part from off the liquid Part, which we put into an earthen glazed Pot, and then let it ſtand ſo near the Fire, that the Heat may juſt melt it again; this done, we take it away, and when it is cold, it will appear a hard greeniſh Ointment; which is to be kept all the Year for Uſe.---Its Vertues, as enumerated by a Phyſician, are; that it is hot in the firſt, and dry in the third Degree; is Antifebritick, Alexipharmick, Traumatick, and Scgnotick.

The

The Eſſence heals all Wounds, Vomitings, ſtops Bloody-Fluxes, cures all Fevers and Heats in the Body, and the Bitings of Serpents and venomous Creatures: Outwardly, it heals all green Wounds, Bitings of venomous Creatures, St. *Anthony*'s Fire, Burns, Scalds, hot Tumours, Apoſthumes, ſpreading Sores, and Ruptures.---Some of our *Hertfordſhire* Farmers mix the Juice of Houſeleek with the Adder-Tongue Juice; others, the Juice of Rue. But moſt Perſons make this Ointment with only the neat Juice of the Adder's-Tongue Herb, as thinking it beſt; and of this Opinion I am.

The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN'S, *the* PLOW-FARMER'S, *the* GRASIER'S, *and* SHEPHERD'S *Sure Guide*, &c.

BOOK II.

CHAP. I.

An Account of that fatal Malady, the Body-Rot of SHEEP *and* LAMBS; *ſhewing its ſeveral Cauſes and ruinous Effects, with various Caſes of the ſame; and how many* SHEEP *and* LAMBS *have been prevented rotting, and others cured.*

The Nature of Sheep, and of the Ground they feed on, how its Situation contributes more or leſs to the rotting of Sheep and Lambs.

TO define the Nature of this deſtructive Diſtemper, is what I don't pretend to do, otherwiſe than Experience indicates; and to do it by this Rule, I have in the firſt Place to obſerve, that this moſt ſerviceable Beaſt is juſtly accounted to be of a moiſter Nature, and looſer Texture of Parts than any other Quadrupede whatſoever; for the Proof of which, it is well known, that they will live longer without Water than any other of the larger Sort of Beaſts; and hence it is, that too much Moiſture of Feed, becomes an

utter Enemy to the Health of Sheep, as many Inſtances of their Fatality have made appear; particularly in that one, of driving a ſound Flock of Sheep from out of one dry Country into another of the ſame Kind, which, in travelling, has oblig'd the Drover to let them lie one Night in a wettiſh Piece of Ground, that has been the only Cauſe of rotting them: This alſo many have experienced to their great Loſs, even in a chiltern or hilly Country. An Example of this I am an Eye-witneſs of, becauſe it was done in our Pariſh of *Little Gaddeſden*, where there is a Common on a high Hill, juſt before our Houſes, that feeds my Flock in the Summer-time, and ſeveral others: Now this Common has two Sorts of Situations on it, ſome of it lies ſloping, the reſt lies flat; and all of it under a clayey Surface. That Part of it next to my Farm, and where my Sheep generally graze, lies moſtly on a Hanging, which is ſo much in their Favour, that they never take the Rot here, becauſe here the Waters run off before they can ſettle to wet the Ground much, or enough to make it dangerous to Sheep; while in another Part of this Common, where it lies flat, a Farmer loſt about thirty of his Folding Sheep in one Year, out of his Flock that was but fifty or ſixty in all; and this merely by the Rot, that they took by feeding on this flat Ground: So on many other Commons, and incloſed Graſs-Grounds in chiltern Countries, where Sheep can feed on their declining, high, or dry Lands, they'll never rot, yet may do it if they feed on their lower, wet Soils in very rainy Seaſons.----The like Caſe I have known to affect great Numbers of Deer that were kept in a very large Park in a chiltern Country, where one Part of it is juſtly accounted as ſound a Layer as moſt in *England*, when the other Part of it ſurely rots thoſe Deer that graze much on it, in a very wet Year; and the more, as there ſtand on the flat Part of it, Thouſands of Oak and Beech Trees, that by their Shade and Drip, greatly contribute to increaſe this Evil; inſomuch that, I believe, I may venture to affirm it for a Truth, that ſeveral hundred Head of Deer have died by the Rot in this Park in one Year, notwithſtanding the great Quantities of Hay that were given them to prevent it: From all which I would infer, that, if Sheep take a Rot in many Parts of a chiltern Country, where there are much more dry than wet Lands, what muſt be the Caſe of ten thouſand Flocks that are confined to feed in low, wet Vale

Grounds, and can have no Relief given them, by ſhifting and feeding them on drier Land?

Why Vale Farmers don't ſo much fear Winter Floods, as they do Summer Floods, rotting their Sheep.---If Floods of Rain happen in Winter, Froſts frequently follow, and dry up the Waters in a little Time; in Winter the Graſs is ſo ſhort, and its flaſhy Nature ſo little, as makes it prove of the leſs Danger in the rotting of Sheep; but if it is high enough to do any Miſchief this Way, as Sheep generally eat Hay at this Time of Year, it much leſſens the Danger; for in Vales, it is their Cuſtom to begin giving their Flocks Hay in *December*, to ſupply the Want of Graſs, and for keeping their Sheep in better Health; ſo that they are under little or no Concern about any Winter-Rot, except the Hunger one: On the contrary, they have great Reaſon to fear the ill Effects of a Summer-Rot, or to be plainer, a *Midſummer*, or a *Michaelmas* Rot; becauſe Summer Floods force Graſs to grow rank and flaſhy in the Water-Furrows, between their Ridge Plow'd-Lands; which, by this Means, being tainted by the Waſh of Dirt running down on them, from the Sides of the Ridge-Lands, the Graſs not only becomes full-furniſh'd with a raw unhealthy Sap, but the Dirt that the Sheep eat by their taking in ſuch Graſs, corrupts their Blood; for even Dirt of itſelf, when received into the Body of a Horſe, Cow, Sheep, or Deer, in a large Quantity, will certainly breed the Rot in their Bodies; and the more, when ſuch dirty Graſs is of the more filthy Sort, as that certainly is, where many Cattle live upon and about it: And thus ſuch tainted Graſs brings on a Rot in Sheep and Lambs, as the Caſe was by the long heavy Rains that fell in *June* and *July*, 1747, whereby great Numbers of Vale Sheep became rotten. And hence it is, that the Vale Farmer ſays---A rotten Year of Sheep, a dear Year of Corn---becauſe if Floods happen in Summer-time, while the Corn is in its green Ear, the Rains are apt to beat it down, as it did this Time, when the Wheat and Barley fell flat before it kerned and bloom'd; ſo that their Kernels became lean, and in ſome Places loſt near half their uſual Bigneſs. Again, when ſuch heavy Rains fall in Summer (eſpecially if the Rain is attended with Hail) the putrify'd Bodies of Inſects, the Waſh of corrupted Dungs and Urines of Beaſts, and the Filth of naſty Dirt, are drove with ſuch Violence along deſcending Grounds, as oftentimes creates poiſonous Foams, which unavoidably are taken into the Bodies of Sheep and Lambs, by

their feeding on Graſs tainted by them, that ſeldom fails of bringing them under a ſwift Rot: To which I may add, that, in the Summer-time there commonly lies on Graſs-Grounds, ſuch Plenty of ſmall, naked, white Snails, or (as moſt call them) Slugs, that Sheep and Lambs can hardly feed without taking ſome of theſe into their Mouths with the Graſs they feed on; then, as the Bodies of theſe Inſects are a Compoſition of a ſlimy watery Subſtance, they tend much to the producing of a Rot in Sheep and Lambs; and ſo do ſeveral Sorts of Graſſes that hold much unwholeſome Sap, as Spear-wort or Couch-Graſs, Rennet-wort Graſs, Penny-Graſs, Knot-Graſs, and Mildew'd-Graſs, that grow in the rankeſt Degree, from Inundations and Overflowings of Waters: Thus likewiſe is the Damage of thoſe Cobwebs to be feared, that almoſt cover ſome Grounds in very hot Summers, as they are thought to contribute, by their malign Effects, towards the breeding of the Rot in the Bodies of Sheep and Lambs: For I ſuppoſe theſe are of the Muſhroom Nature, and are a Sort of Excreſcence, containing a poiſonous Quality, drawn out of the Earth by the attractive Power of the Sun: All which ſeveral Sorts of hurtful Incidents are, if poſſible, to be avoided as much as may be, by keeping Sheep and Lambs from them; or by giving them thoſe Antidotes which will effectually prevent their Miſchief. But to proceed further in explaining this important Subject, how Sheep and Lambs become rotted, I ſhall endeavour to be ſo particular in my Account of it, as to make the old Proverb good to my Reader---Fore-warn'd, fore-arm'd---For the Knowledge thereof ſo highly concerns all Sorts of Farmers, and others that deal in Sheep, that none ought to be without it, ſince on the Preſervation of the Lives of Flocks of Sheep, depends the Making or Undoing of many Perſons.

The ill Conſequences attending a Midſummer *Rot of Sheep.*---THERE are two Sorts of Rots that give Farmers the moſt Apprehenſions of their ruinous Effects, one is a *Midſummer* Rot, the other a *Michaelmas* Rot; both which I ſhall endeavour to account for: As to a *Midſummer* Rot, I have, in the foregoing Paragraph, I hope, ſatisfied my Reader ſo much of the Cauſe thereof, that I need ſay the leſs of it in this. A *Midſummer* Rot is generally term'd a fat Rot, becauſe, as it is bred and increaſed chiefly by the rank Flaſhineſs of high-grown corrupted Graſs, Sheep ſeldom want a Bellyful of Meat at this Seaſon of the Year: And as they commonly

commonly have it now in great Plenty, they ſeldom fail of thriving and fatting apace for ſeveral Weeks together, before the Abundance of Moiſture, which they thus take into their Bodies, can have ſo much Effect on them as to bring them under a fatal Scouring and Pining away: It is therefore cuſtomary, with all prudent foreſighted Farmers, whoſe Caſe it is of being Owners of ſuch rotten Sheep, to put them into their Meadows, and ſhift them from Time to Time, into that Graſs as they think is moſt for their Profit, in order to give them as much of it as poſſible they can eat, for fattening them with the greateſt Expedition. And happy have many thought themſelves when, by this prudent, timely Means, they have got a Flock of rotten Sheep fat before their Neighbours have had theirs, for enjoying the moſt forward and moſt profitable Market, where, in Courſe, they ſell ſuch Sheep at the beſt Prices: And becauſe in Time, Markets will be ſo furniſh'd and glutted with theſe Sort of fat rotten Sheep, (that their Owners are obliged to ſell off at any Rate to prevent their dying at home) as will greatly leſſen their Value. In the Year 1745, when there was not a thorough general Rot, I knew a Farmer, who now lives near *Redburn* in *Hertfordſhire*, go to *Leighton* great Vale-Market, in *Bedfordſhire*, to buy in Sheep; and being there, the Name of a Rot among Sheep had ſo ſpread, that this Chiltern Farmer became apprized of it, and accordingly bid a very little Price for a fat Flock of them, even but Half a Crown a-piece, and bought them for the ſame; though, as he told me, he believed, if the Sheep had been quite ſound, they would have fetch'd above Fourteen Shillings each. Woe therefore be to the ignorant Man, who goes on this Errand to Market, unfurniſh'd with Wit enough to know, find out, and buy rotten Sheep for ſound ones; which leads me to obſerve to my Reader, an Account of the ſeveral Artifices made uſe of by acute knaviſh Sellers, to impoſe on, and bite an ignorant Buyer of rotten Sheep; but before I do this, I ſhall hint, that old Vale Shepherds are very uneaſy in their Mind at ſeeing a Hail Shower fall in *June*, becauſe it is commonly attended with a ſharp Rain, that ſo baſhes the Earth and ſpirtles it upon the Graſs, as to cauſe a Rot on thoſe Sheep that feed on it. On this Account alſo it is, that, in ſome Vale Countries, in wet and dangerous Seaſons, Farmers don't care how little their Sheep feed on their Fallow Grounds, as well knowing that the Weeds and Graſs that grow on ſuch

Land,

Land, are, by the Fall of heavy Rains baſhed and daubed with the Earth about them; and it is this that cauſes Sheep to rot ſooner than when they feed on Meadow Ground; therefore it is, that their Sheep will be rotted, that feed on ſuch ploughed Lands, when thoſe will ſtand ſound, that feed in Meadows and Paſtures. In ſhort, a *Midſummer* Rot may be ſaid to be the worſt Rot, and the beſt Rot; the worſt, becauſe the Graſs ſhoots very quick and flaſhy, and ſoiled by heavy Rains with Dirt, that brings on a Rot forthwith; but here is the Remedy, that it is a fat Rot, becauſe when the knowing ones perceive the Rot begun, they make no more to do, than to turn theſe infected Sheep into their Meadows, though they are the moſt rotten Ground. For as ſuch Sheep, in the Beginning of their Rot, will fat faſter for ſome Time than a ſound Sheep, they'll fat on a full Bite of Graſs in a little Time, and thus may be ſold to little or no Loſs.

The Caſe of Farmer Culverhouſe, *who took ſuch a Method to diſpoſe of his fat, rotten Sheep, that he was little or no Loſer by them.*------THIS Mr. *Culverhouſe* was both Farmer and Butcher, and rented a Vale Farm, at *Northall*, in the Pariſh of *Slapham*, in the County of *Bucks*, where the Ground of it lay ſo low and flat, that in a very wet Year his Sheep would ſurely rot. But being a clever Manager, he took care in Time to feed theſe Sheep in his beſt Meadow Graſs, and when he had got them fat enough for Market, as he was a Butcher, he took care to ſell their Carcaſſes, without ſhewing their Livers, that he might make the old Proverb good-----*What the Eye never ſees, the Heart never rues*----- therefore ſold his rotten Mutton at the ſoundeſt Price; and thus in Part verified the Saying of a *London* Butcher, whoſe Expreſſion is reported to have been,---I will not take fourſcore Pounds a Year for my Fools.---But of this Subject more by and by.

The Caſe of a Gaddeſden *Farmer, that had fifteen Sheep died rotten, in the Year* 1738.------THIS Farmer, living at the South End of *Gaddeſden* Common, where its Situation is a flat, clayey Surface, he was neceſſitated to graze his folding Sheep in this Part of it, not thinking they would take the Rot here, becauſe he never heard any that did before, to any conſiderable Damage; but ſo it happened, that in the Year 1738, there fell ſo many heavy Showers of Rain beween *May* and the End of *June*, as occaſioned the Rotting of great Numbers of Sheep, inſomuch that this Farmer had

had fifteen died by the Rot, while others, that had more Wit than he, fatted their rotten Sheep in Time, and many ſuch were ſold fatted to Butchers, in *Auguſt* and *September* following.

The ill Conſequences that attend a Michaelmas *Rot.*-A *MICHAELMAS* Rot may be ſaid to be the worſt Rot on this Account, for when a Rot happens at this Time of Year, the cold Weather does not puſh up Graſs enough to fat the Sheep; it is thus that it becomes a lean Rot and a loſing one; for now there is not that Room to ſell a rotten Sheep for a ſound one, as there is when rotten Sheep are to be ſold fat, and then a Farmer muſt either fat them with Peaſe, Beans, Pollard, Barley-meal, or ſome other chargeable dry Meat, or elſe they'll pine and die.

How a young Gentleman taking his home Farm into his own Hands, was cheated in buying a Flock of rotten Sheep, for ſound ones.----THIS Gentleman coming into the Enjoyment of a conſiderable Eſtate, that lies in the chiltern Country of *Hertfordſhire*, by the Deceaſe of his Father in the Year 1746, he took his Home Farm into his Hands, that before was rented by a Tenant at about ſeventy Pounds a Year, and accordingly ſtock'd this his Farm, with every Thing that he thought might improve it, and it's ſaid he ſucceeded well in doing the ſame, except in purchaſing a Flock of Sheep for his Fold; for that in this he was ſoundly bit, becauſe, as the Story is told, he leaned ſo much on his own Judgment, that he would not ſee through the Eyes of another, that did know better how to prevent the like Impoſition, but bought in a rotten Flock of Sheep, as ſo many ſound ones; however, this he did not diſcover till Time and better Judgment than his own ihformed him of his Miſtake, and then in a Pet he ſent them to the next Fair, with Orders to ſell them for Eighteen Pence a-peice, rather than bring them home again. This, and ſome other Matters, not occurring to his Approbation, induced him ſoon to lett his Farm, and thus he freed himſelf from that Incumbrance, which a Proficient in the Art of Huſbandry might have converted to the Enjoyment of a long and healthy Life, to a durable Pleaſure, and to a conſiderable Profit, as I intend to exemplify by publiſhing the good Conduct of a certain Nobleman, who held many of his incloſed Home Fields in his Hands, kept a very numerous Flock of Sheep, and went on ſo well, in many Reſpects, for a long Time, that few Men had better Health, nor had more Pleaſure in a Country Life; and I am ſure, I

may juſtly add, that none increaſed an Eſtate more than he did his, for the Time he was about doing it.

The great Loſſes that ſeveral Farmers ſuſtained by the moſt noted Sheep Rot of 1735.---A FARMER living in the Vale of *Aylesbury*, who rented a Farm of one hundred and ſixty five Pounds a Year, declared to me he had loſt two Flocks of his folding Sheep, by the Rot, between *May* 1735 and *May* 1736, which almoſt broke him; for though he made ſhift to rub on for two Years longer, yet at laſt, he was forced to deſire his Landlord to ſeize, and take what he could for paying himſelf, and thus came to great Poverty indeed, for he never could ſurmount the Loſs of three hundred Sheep in one Year.----Another Vale Farmer, living at *Stutely*, in the County of *Bucks*, rotted his large Flock, by keeping them too long before he had them to Market, and when he did, the Sheep were ſo lean, that he could make no more than Sixpence a-peice for them, and at this Price he ſold one Hundred in *Leighton* Market, to ſeveral Perſons, rather than drive them home again: For this Rot, in 1735, came on ſo faſt, and was ſo ſevere and general a one, that Thouſands of Sheep were not worth offering to Sale. Nor did I know any Vale Farmer, that ſaved his Flock from this grand Rot, except one, and though their Number was three Hundred, they all ſtood ſound, merely by the Help of a certain cheap but moſt infallible Liquor, that was then given to every one of his Sheep at a proper Time; and thus he ſaved every one of his Sheep, though they fed on a very ſpewey Ground, that lay low and contiguous to a River. And ſo deſtructive was this general Rot of 1735, that the dead Carcaſſes of many Sheep lay in the Highways, and became a very great Nuſance to that Part of the Country where they thus died, as well as to Paſſengers, by the unwholeſome Carrion Stench that proceeded from their Bodies. The ſame cheap Liquor has ſince ſaved all the Sheep and Lambs it has been given to, particularly a large Flock of one Gentleman, in the Year 1745, and for which the ſame Gentleman ſent his Certificate to aſſure the ſame, with a conſiderable Preſent to me for my Receipt, before I ever ſaw his Face; which Receipt, for the Good of this Nation, I intend to publiſh in my third and laſt Book of the Gentleman's and Shepherd's Guide. But of this more by and by.

The Caſe of a certain Hertfordſhire *Farmer, who bought ten rotten Sheep for ſound ones; by which is ſhewn that no rotten Sheep will rightly fat on the Feed of Turnips.*----THIS Farmer

Farmer lives about a Mile and Half from me, is a Man of conſiderable Worth, that he came at by renting a large dry Farm many Years, and accounted as acute a Farmer as any in our Country; yet was deceived in his Judgment by buying in Half a Score rotten Sheep, to fat among many ſound ones in his Turnips. Now theſe Sheep came out of the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, and by all the Signs that this Farmer could diſcover, he thought them abſolutely ſound, till ſome of them began to droop, for no rotten Sheep can ſtand the Feed of Turnips, ſo as to fat with them; not but that they may go on for a Fortnight, or three Weeks well, and then fail, and for knowing this, in the Beginning, it is to be diſcover'd by their falling off their Stomach, moping, and drooping about, and then beginning to ſcour, as two or three of this Farmer's did, which made his Shepherd tell him he had bought in a Parcel of rotten Sheep; however, he ſeem'd not to believe it, at firſt, and was very angry with the Man for telling him ſo; but the Effect proved the Cauſe, for two of them died in the Field of Turnips, others ſcour'd, and the reſt would have done the ſame, had they not been directly ſold off to the Butcher, who kill'd and diſpoſed of their Carcaſſes, as well as he could, for their Livers were rotten.--- Now, by this Account, I am led to obſerve, that thoſe Sheep muſt in Courſe have taken the Rot about *Michaelmas* Time, and as the Owner knew it, he tempted a Buyer to purchaſe them, before they were gone too far, by ſetting, (as is uſual in ſuch a Caſe) a very low Price on them; for which Reaſon, this Farmer bought them to fat on his Turnips, and accordingly put them into a Field of them in *November* or *December*, and if they had ſtood ſound the Farmer muſt have got well by them; for I ſuppoſe he did not give above five Shillings, or perhaps ſix Shillings a-peice for them, and if they had fatted well, he might have poſſibly ſold them for ſixteen Shillings, or more, a-piece. But as Turnips are hot, watery Roots, they muſt conſequently have a bad Effect on rotten Sheep, whoſe Bodies are, at firſt, infected and ſpoiled, by taking into them too much Water, from the Feed of flaſhy Graſs. I have, alſo, further to obſerve, that ſince ſuch a great and very acute Farmer, who lives, at this Time on the Edge of *Ayleſbury* fertile Vale, and keeps a Shepherd all the Year, on Purpoſe to look after his folding Flock and Turnip Sheep, was thus bit, what muſt be the Caſe of many others who have much leſs Skill to go to Market with? My Anſwer is, that ſuch an one ought either to ſee through the

Eyes of a more experienced, and a more knowing Perſon than himſelf, or to obſerve and follow ſuch Directions as are contained in theſe my Books, for inſtructing him how he may avoid thoſe Impoſitions and Bites, that a Buyer is liable to meet with at Fairs and Markets.

The Example of a Sheep touch'd with the Rot, that fed on Turnips without ſcouring.--THIS Wether Sheep was bought at a Market with a Parcel of ſound Sheep; now it happened that the Farmer who was Owner of theſe, after folding them all the Summer, fed them as his Store Sheep, in the Winter 1746, on Turnips, and all went on well, except this one Sheep, for this was always in a leaner Condition than any of the reſt, that were of the ſame Age, and ſcoured a little now and then, which gave the Farmer a Suſpicion it was a rotten one, when he bought it; and ſo it very likely was, but coming out of a Vale wet Country, into a Chiltern dry Country, it is ſuppoſed to have knitted, ſo far as to be juſt able to keep from a fatal Scouring; and what this Knitting is, I intend to explain by and by. In the mean Time, I have to remark here, that this Sheep being alive, at my penning this Account, it cannot be decided whether it was a rotten one at its buying in, or not, otherwiſe than by the Circumſtance I have mentioned; however, as it is now at Graſs, feeding to fat for Harveſt Uſe, I ſhall know in a little Time what Condition its Liver is in. Since which I have received an Account, that this, with another Sheep, as they were fatting in an incloſed Piece of Graſs Ground, was killed, in the Night-Time, by a Dog, and when its Carcaſs was opened, the Liver proved ſpecky, and full of mattery Kernels, which diſcovered that it was all along in a rotten Condition; but as it was kept about a Year on a dry Farm of Land, it would now and then have a Jog, or Bunch, under its Jaws, for three or four Days together, and then it would diſappear; and ſo at other Times it would go and come, inſomuch that the Owner of it deſpaired making it a fat Sheep; yet at laſt being reſerved under good Feed, to be killed in Harveſt, it got ſome Fleſh on its Back, and would have been tolerable Meat, had not the Dog killed it.

Of the Pelt-Rot, and the ill Conſequences attending it-THIS Sort of Rot befals Sheep more or leſs, as their Wool is more or leſs tight or looſe on their Backs: If looſe, the Water of Rains has much Power to enter into, and paſs through, ſuch looſe Wool, into the Pelt or Skin of the Sheep, and *there chill* and give the Beaſt an Ague, or Fever, or Sickneſs,

neſs, or all thoſe Diſtempers at once; and in Time cauſe its Liver to rot; becauſe, as I have before obſerved, too much Water is a perfect Enemy to the Health of a Sheep, whether it enters its Body by the Mouth, or by its Pelt or Skin; for Water having the thinneſt Body of any Liquor, and the Skin of a Sheep being the moſt porous of all Skins, much Water eaſily penetrates it, when there is not a ſufficient Fence of tight, cloſe-curl'd Wool to prevent it. Now, what I call tight Wool, is that Sort which lies on a Sheep's Back, in the ſtrongeſt and cloſeſt Curl, a Property that moſt of the Weſtern Sheep are remarkable for having, and when a Sheep is full loaded with ſuch Wool, and under a plentiful Feeding, there is no Danger, in the leaſt, that a Sheep ſo well furniſh'd, can ſuffer by the Pelt-Rot: for then, if it rains a Week together, ſuch a Sheep will take no Harm, becauſe, before the Rain can enter ſo cloſe a Wool, a well-fed Sheep, by its Strength, will ſhake off and diſcharge it often enough, to hinder its having any ill Effect on its Skin or Body.

The Proof of a Sheep's dying by the Pelt-Rot, ſhewn by the Death of one whoſe Carcaſe was putrified next its Skin.----- A SHEPHERD that formerly lived with a Farmer in *Bedfordſhire*, and whom I now employ, this Year 1747, about ſeveral Buſineſſes in Huſbandry, tells me, he ſkinned a Sheep that he thought died by the Pelt-Rot, becauſe he found all under its Skin, a Sort of Jelly-like Matter, which he thought he had juſt Reaſon to ſuppoſe was a Corruption bred by frequent Rains, that paſs'd through its looſe Wool, chilled its Fleſh, and brought on its Death. Hence I would obſerve to my Reader, that what is contained in this Caſe, ought to prove a Warning to him againſt buying in any looſe-coated Wool-Sheep, which is a Sort many are of, that come from remote Parts in the North of *England*: For if he buys theſe Sorts, he not only ſtands the Chance of loſing them by the Pelt-Rot, but their Wool is not near the Value of that from a cloſe-coated Weſtern Sheep. 'Tis therefore that we in *Hertfordſhire* ſeldom buy in any other than the Weſtern Breed, that are in moſt Reſpects the beſt of Sheep for folding and fatting, and for ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, as I ſhall prove when I write by and by on that Subject.

The Durham *Method to prevent the Pelt-Rot in Sheep.*---- IT is reported, by a certain Author, that in *Durham* they melt Tar, Greaſe, and Salt together, and rub it all over the Skin of a Sheep; elſe, ſays he, they would not live three Years, in this cold, wet Country; and that one Man will

greaſe twelve Sheep in one Day on their being ſhorn. This preſerves them in a great Degree from ſuffering all the Year after, from the Chill and Damage of Rains and piercing Winds, helps to keep them in Health, and cauſes them to thrive with the leaſt Meat.

Of preventing the Pelt-Rot in other Countries.---- In ſeveral other Countries, beſides *Durham*, many Farmers take ſpecial Care to waſh their Sheep preſently after ſheering, when this warm-coated Animal is ſtript all at once of its woolly Fleece. Then, as it ſometimes happens, if cold Rains ſucceed, and enter into the porous, looſe Pelt, or Skin of the Sheep, they are apt to chill and corrupt the Blood and Fleſh of this Beaſt, and perhaps breed the Rot, or Red-water, or Colick, or Gripes, or Fevers, or Scab, or Surfeit, to the great Damage, if not to the Deſtruction of the Sheep. It is therefore true Huſbandry to provide againſt the worſt, and is what may be done in a very cheap Manner, by only getting a Tub of Salt-Water ready againſt the Sheep are ſhorn, and as they are ſhorn, a Man with a Diſhclout, or looſe Bruſh, ſhould rub all the Carcaſs of the Sheep over with it, for heating and hardening the Pelt or Skin, preventing Diſeaſes of it, and for cauſing it to bring forth a full Fleece of Wool another Year. This Conveniency and beneficial Management, many Farmers that live near the Sea, or a Salt-water River, are ſo well apprized of, that they carefully and duly every Year thus obſerve to waſh their Sheep, as ſoon as ſhorn, in the Salt-water Element; in Belief, that it much contributes not only to keep them in Health all the Year after, but is likewiſe the Cauſe, in a great Degree, of breeding a better Fleece of Wool than ordinary, againſt the next ſheering Time, and leſſening the Increaſe of Ticks, or Sheep-Lice, and preventing the Scab. But of this more when I write of ſheering Sheep and Lambs, which will be in my third and laſt Book.

Of the Hunger-Rot in Sheep and Lambs, and the ill Conſequences attending it.--Poverty is accounted the Source of moſt Diſtempers, and oftentimes the Cauſe of vaſt Numbers of Sheeps Death. This is a Misfortune that moſtly happens to two Sorts of Farmers; the young ignorant one, and the old poor one. The firſt has no more Wit than to venture on keeping a large Flock, without allowing for the Miſcarriage of Crops of Turnips, Cole, Thetches, or Graſs, or Corn, and not calculating what the Event will be, whether he ſhall have Meat enough for his Sheep and Lambs, in caſe

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a long and ſevere Winter follows; for the Want of good Hay or Turnips, &c. (if he is a Chiltern Farmer) at that Time, muſt in Courſe prove fatal to his Sheep: An Example of which I need not go far for, becauſe it happened not a great Way from me.

The Caſe of a young Man, who, on coming into the Enjoyment of a paternal Eſtate, bought in more Sheep than he could maintain, and of the Loſs he ſuffered by it.--A YOUNG Man coming into the Poſſeſſion of a Farm of eighty Pounds a Year, lying in incloſed Fields, conſiſting of arable and paſture Land, provided himſelf with a large Flock of Sheep to fold, and dreſs his ploughed Ground. Now it happened, that almoſt all his Turnips miſs'd ſtanding, for when they had juſt got above Ground, the Fly took and eat them up. The ſame Diſappointment he met with on his ſecond Sowing, ſo that he was deprived of this his intended Winter Subſiſtence for his Sheep, whereof ſome were Lambs, others Ewes, and others Wethers; the Conſequence of which was, that as a long and froſty Winter enſued, attended with much Snow, this large Stock of his began to baul for Meat, pine and grow poor, becauſe he had not Turnips enough for one fourth Part of the Number of his Sheep; and as to his Hay, he grudged giving it to his Sheep, to that Degree, that his Flock could hardly keep alive by it; indeed, if they would eat Straw they might, or elſe ſtarve; and ſtarve many of them did, by thus dying by the Hunger-Rot, as I am well aſſured of; wherefore I believe I may ſay he loſt above ten Pounds in this one Year, by his wrong Conduct, in Sheep that died, beſides ſeveral more Pounds, in thus damaging thoſe Sheep that did ſurvive the hard Froſt of 1740: Whereas, had this young Man had a good Crop of Turnips, or Rapes, this Loſs might have been prevented; but the Caſe is the ſame with this Youngſter, as it is with Thouſands of others, who will not believe that is a proper Means to be made uſe of in ſuch Caſe, not only for cauſing Turnip and Rape-Seed to come up in the drieſt Weather, in a little Time, but alſo to ſecure their Crop afterwards, by keeping them from the Damage of Flies, the Turnips fatal Enemies: Both which I can aſſuredly do, as has been often experienced, and never failed, and this without one Farthing Coſt; for in doing both theſe, I employ no Ingredient, and am ready to ſell the Receipt to any Gentleman or Farmer, as I do many others. But to return to my preſent Subject; I have to ſhew,

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The Miſconduct of an old Farmer, who, by keeping more Sheep than he could maintain, ſuffered a conſiderable Loſs.---Now I am to take Notice of what befel a poor, old Farmer, (and undoubtedly many others have been in the like Caſe;) he had but little ploughed Ground, and having very few Cattle, beſides his Sheep, he kept rather more of them than he could feed, if a Winter proved long and ſharp, but in mild Seaſons he did tolerable well, becauſe his Sheep got good Part of their Living on an adjacent Common, moſt of that Time; however, as he was obliged to keep a ſufficient Number to fold and dreſs his Land, he run a Riſque of the Weather and ventured the Event, the Conſequence of which was, that as a long and froſty Seaſon followed, and having no Turnips nor Rapes to feed his Sheep with, they were forced to live, almoſt wholly on Straw, and before the Spring of Graſs came on, many of them pined and died. In ſuch a Caſe it is too common a Sight to ſee theſe poor Creatures, through Hunger, feed on unwholeſome, dirty Weeds, foul Graſs, and rotteniſh Leaves, that they pick up under Hedges, in Ditches, and about Highways, and ſometimes on naſty Straw; thus when they have not Strength enough left to forrage for this their laſt Living, they die, and often with corrupted Blood and rotten Livers.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who loſt five and thirty out of forty Lambs, by the Hunger-Rot.---THIS Farmer occupies a Farm of one Hundred a Year, in our Chiltern Country, and thinking to turn the Penny to Advantage, bought forty Lambs, that were as he thought bought out of the Weſt Country, at *Allhallontide*, for five Shillings a-piece, which, for their better Improvement, he let to range and feed all over his Field, till a great Snow fell; and having a large Orchard beſides, that had much After-graſs in it, he likewiſe let the Lambs feed here at their Pleaſure, while the Snow lay on the Ground, at the ſame Time giving them Hay to eat when they would; but the Hay the Lambs refuſed, ſcratching among the Snow to come at the Graſs, the Conſequence of which was, that five and thirty of them died of the Hunger-Rot; for as they refuſed the Hay, they could not get a Belly-full of Graſs for the Snow, and on feeding on the little they could come at, they took in Snow with it, and thus their Livers became rotten, and full of Plaiſe-Worms, and ſo were the Bottom of their Horns furniſhed with Grubs. Now this Farmer owns his Miſtake, at this Day, by telling me, that if he had confined theſe forty Lambs in a Yard to feed on Hay,

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he verily believes he ſhould not have loſt one of them; for his Opinion is, that Lambs will not eat Hay the firſt Winter, unleſs confined to it; but I do not ſay ſo, for my Notion of the Matter is, that if he had let the Lambs range every Day in the Fields, and confined them every Night in his Yard to feed on Hay, he might have ſaved them; and this with the greater Aſſurance, if he had rightly endeavoured to bring them to eat Hay. For when Lambs refuſe it the next Winter after Lambing, repeated Trials ſhould be made, by giving them ſome of the ſhorteſt, ſweeteſt and beſt Hay; and if they won't eat it voluntarily, a little at a Time ſhould be forced into their Mouths, and well rubbed on their hind Teeth, or Grinders, till it breaks, which will oblige them to chew a little of it, and thus by Degrees learn them to eat it; for ſome Lambs will eat Hay in the firſt Year of their Age, and others not; therefore they ſhould be learnt in this Way, or by putting them amongſt Sheep, that they may be tempted to it by their Example.

How they preſerve their Lambs, the firſt Winter, from the Rot in Vale Lands.-----As there is the moſt Danger of rotting Sheep and Lambs in wet Vale Grounds, their Farmers are neceſſitated to ſtudy Ways and Means to prevent it; to do which there are few or none of them that have Recourſe to any Antidote beſides what occurs to their Fancy, in a cuſtomary natural Way; therefore their general Method is to do it only by Graſs, Hay, or Corn. Vale Lands, for the moſt Part, lie ſo low out of the Violence of cutting Winds, that in many Places their Cattle are not expoſed to them, as they are in high chiltern Lands; nor do their Snows lie near ſo long and deep here as they do in higher, drier Ground. Wherefore in the moſt dangerous Winter-Time of rotting Sheep and Lambs, they turn their Lambs out to range in their Fields, for having an Opportunity to pick Briar Leaves, and other green Meat from among their Hedges and Ditches, *&c.* and every Night confine them in an incloſed Place, where are ready provided for them Wooden Troughs, that have each of them a Stick faſtened long-ways over Hay, to prevent the Lambs dunging and ſtaling on it; or if they have not Troughs, they have narrow, low Cribs to hold Hay in, that anſwer the ſame End. By theſe Means their Lambs ſeldom rot in Winter-Time, but go on well, and grow fat enough to pay their Owner, better ſometimes than any Thing elſe about his Farm; and as a Proof that this Method of Day and Night alternate Feedings is right, many Vale Farmers have

every

every Year ſupernumerary Lambs, to ſell at Spring Fairs and Markets; but they are utterly againſt feeding their Lambs altogether in a confined Place; for to keep them always in the Field, on what Graſs they can get in Winter, or always in an incloſed Place on Hay, is by them thought ſo repugnant to the Health of theſe Creatures, that it is a Chance, if they are ſo ſerved, that many of them do not die, which they think is beſt prevented by what Graſs, and other Vegetables, the Lambs pick up in the Day-time, becauſe it ſerves to create them an Appetite, the better to eat Hay at Night, as the Hay does to make them feed on Graſs.

Sheep and Deer rotted in 1747.------On the 6th Day of *May*, 1747, there was a conſiderable Number of Deer lay dead, with their Skins on, in a certain Park that abounds with great Numbers of Trees, and where the Soil is of a clayey Nature, and very apt to retain Water on or near its Surface, which in very rainy Seaſons ſubjects their Deer to rot and die, as was the Caſe this Year, and the ſame in ſeveral paſt Years. At *Chriſtmas*, 1746, the Weather was ſo mild, that Graſs grew under the Hedges, to near a Finger's Length, and being of a raw and very flaſhy, ſappy Nature, it contributed much towards corrupting the Blood of Deer and Sheep, and bringing them under the Red-water or Rot; and how to prevent this ill Conſequence is paſt the Skill of moſt Men, for it is not giving them Hay, at ſuch a Time, that will do it, becauſe they prefer the ſhort Bite of Graſs to the beſt Hay. Yet I know more than one Way how to do it, and thereby keep Sheep and Deer from theſe fatal Maladies. This was by our Country People called a green *Chriſtmas*, and which made the old Women ſay, that therefore there would grow no more Graſs till *May*; and their Saying ſeem'd verified, for though ſome Showers of Rain fell in *February*, the Graſs did not grow to Profit till the latter End of *May*, and then, after a long dry Time, Rain continued ſome Weeks, and rotted many Sheep and Deer that fed on flat, clayey, and other low Lands.

The Caſe of a Farmer, living near Leighton *in* Bedfordſhire, *who, by his Ignorance, and Covetouſneſs, rotted his whole Flock of ſtore Sheep, conſiſting of eleven Score, and another Flock in the following Year.*---In a Common large Meadow, called *Billington-Mead*, which is of ſuch an Extent, that ſeveral Flocks of Sheep feed and common on the ſame, after the Graſs is mowed, and the Hay carried off; in one Part of this *Mead* there is a low ſhallow Place, containing about one

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Acre of Ground, which ſometimes becomes a Receptacle or Receiver of Waters that fall from the adjacent dry, higher Land, in very rainy Seaſons; and after the Waters have ſtood here ſome Time, and are ſucceeded by dry, warm Weather, there generally comes up a rank Graſs full of Sap, with a dirty, ſlimy Bottom, that carries in it a moſt unwholeſome Quality, that Sheep take in, when they come here and eat it; an Evil ſo well known to all the Shepherds that feed their Flocks in this Mead, that none of them will ſuffer their Sheep to approach too near this boggy Situation. But notwithſtanding this boggy Place is ſo well known to all the Shepherds, that feed their Flocks in this great Mead, a certain Farmer, whoſe Flock of Sheep uſed to feed here, ſeeing Plenty of Graſs growing on this Spot of Ground, and but little elſewhere, obliged his Shepherd, between *Michaelmas* and *Allhallontide*, to graze his Sheep here, that they might go into the Fold with a full Belly of Meat; and this he continued doing Day after Day, in Oppoſition to the Sentiments of all his neighbouring Farmers, who were ſo apprehenſive of the fatal Effects of this rotten Spot of Ground, that they believed, if they fed their Sheep on it, it would ſurely rot them; yet this ignorant, covetous Farmer ventured it, and run the Riſque of rotting his whole Flock, the Conſequence of which was, that not one Sheep out of eleven Score, which was the Number his Flock conſiſted of, eſcaped: For every one of them died of the Rot in the following Spring Seaſon. And for further expoſing the Stupidity of this Farmer's ill Conduct, I have to add, that for recruiting himſelf, he bought in another Flock, conſiſting of ſeven Score more Wether Store-Sheep, which feeding in this Meadow, and other low, flat Grounds, the very next Summer, the rainy Weather brought up long Graſs, and rotted this his ſecond Flock likewiſe, but not to that Loſs as befel him the Year before; for this Year he took care to ſell Part of his rotten Flock off in Time, I think it was at *Leighton* Market, and ſo came off with the leſs Loſs.----To animadvert upon this Farmer's Caſe, I have to offer to my Reader's Conſideration the Value of theſe my three Books on Sheep and Lambs, which inform all that read them, how they may prevent any ſuch Damage, for a Crown or two Charge; and what is ſuch a ſmall Expence in Compariſon of ſo great a Loſs as above one Hundred Pounds, by only one Flock? For it is very probable the eleven Score might be worth this Sum, or very near it, beſides what this imprudent Farmer ſuffered in rot-

ting his ſecond Flock.----But of this more by and by, when in my third and laſt Book I expoſe to my Reader's View, the Copy of a Certificate ſent me by a Gentleman of a conſiderable Eſtate, of the famous Effects of my preventing Receipt, which ſaved every Sheep in his Flock, from the leaſt Damage of the Rot, when all the Sheep about him rotted in the Year 1745.

Forty Lambs, except one, died rotten of one Man's; and forty more died of another's.---FARMER *Barton*, of *Hudnal*, within four Miles of *Hempſtead*, bought forty Lambs of one -----of *Winſlow*, a Sheep-Jobber, or Sheep-Botcher, and gave Four Shillings a-peice for them; but though he bought them in *Ayleſbury* Vale, and grazed them afterwards in a hilly, dry Country, they were ſo far gone in the Rot, that he could not recover them, but all died of it except one. The Caſe was near the ſame with Farmer *Staines*.

CHAP. II.

Of the prudent Management of ſome Perſons, to prevent their Sheep rotting, without the Help of any internal Antidote.

The Caſe of Farmer Higgs, *of* Aſkot, *in the Pariſh of* Wing, *in the County of* Bucks, *who, by mere good Management preſerved his Flock of a Eleven Score Sheep ſound, when thoſe of all his Neighbours rotted.*

IN this Pariſh of *Wing* their ploughed Land is for the moſt Part of a black, loamy, clayey Nature, which obliges their Farmers to plough it always one Way, in the long Ridge, and Furrow Poſture, to keep it the higher and drier. Here lived one *William Higgs*, a Farmer, that kept eleven Score Sheep, for folding his Land; now it happened, that preſently after Harveſt a very wet Seaſon commenced, and continued warm and rainy till near *Chriſtmas*, with ſome little Intermiſſions of dry Weather, which gave the Graſs ſuch a Spring of Growth, that it proved a very rotten Year among the Sheep. This Farmer *Higgs* fearing, provided againſt the

the worſt, and therefore gave ſtrict Orders to his Shepherd to keep his Sheep out of all watery, ſloppy Places, as much as poſſible, and feed them on the drieſt Ground he could find: To this End the Maſter came every now then into the Field to give his Shepherd a Viſit, for ſuperviſing his Management, and when he found he obſerved his Orders, and went carefully on, he tipt him Six-pence, by Way of Encouragement, and it had ſo good an Effect, that wherever a dry, riſing Feeding Place was in the Pariſh, this Shepherd duly obſerved to keep his Flock there; and there are ſeveral Places that gave him an Opportunity to do all this, for in this Pariſh there is hilly, common Land, both of the plough'd and grazing Sort, that is of a gravelly, loamy Nature, tho' ſituated in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, as well as a black, clayey Sort; and the Sheep being thus for the moſt Part kept on high dryiſh Ground, on a ſhort Bite of Graſs, they rather loſt than got Fleſh; however, they went on grazing in this Manner till near *Chriſtmas*, and then they were every Night brought Home into an incloſed dry Meadow, and here fed with the beſt of Hay in Cribs, which kept the Sheep in tolerable Heart, while Mr. *Higgs's* Neighbours laugh'd at him, and ſaid he would ſtarve his Sheep; but their Ridicule did not make him alter his good Management, for he kept on his old Practice of feeding his Flock on the pooreſt Ground and ſhorteſt Bite of Graſs, with giving them Hay at Night, till the Spring Time came on, and gave the Sheep a plentiful Living, when they throve and ſtood perfectly ſound, at a Time when almoſt all the Sheep, in the Pariſh of *Wing*, beſides Mr. *Higgs's*, rotted and died. So that ſeven Farmers who lived in the Pariſh of *Wing*, beſides Mr. *Higgs*, and whoſe Number of Sheep in all were computed to be fifteen Hundred, could not ſhew above ſixty that ſurvived the laſt Year's wet, rotten Seaſon.

The Caſe of George Leatherland, *of* Dagnal, *in the Pariſh of* Edlesborough, *in the County of* Bucks, *who preſerved his Flock of Ewes and Lambs, in the Year* 1738, *ſo well from the Rot, that he ſold them to Profit.*---- THIS Man was bred a Shepherd, in *Oxfordſhire*, but afterwards lived at this Place, that ſtands on the Edge of a Vale, and of a Chiltern Country, where he kept a little Publick-houſe, that was managed by his Wife, while he got Part of his Livelihood by keeping a Flock of Sheep, that he lett out to fold Farmers plough'd Grounds at ſo much a Score, for every Week's Folding: A Cuſtom much practiſed by ſeveral in this Vale of *Ayleſbury*,

the Loppings of this healthful Tree, in the hard Winter, ſnowy Weather, which laſts in the Northern Clime a long while, and yet their Sheep live in the greateſt Health, free from Rot and other Sickneſs, by brouſing on theſe Fir-Loppings; which they love much, and greedily feed on; and where the Fir grows in Hedges, Copſes, or Spinneys, in a low Poſture, their Sheep feed on it at Pleaſure.—Hence I think it neceſſary to obſerve that, in ſeveral Parts of *England*, we are much wanting on this very Account; for as Fir will grow in both moiſt and in barren gravelly Land, if not over-light and ſandy, Sheep may be preſerved in a great Meaſure from the Rot or Sickneſs, by having enough of the Loppings of this Tree to brouſe on, in the dangerous wet Winter and Spring Seaſons; for the Quality of this Evergreen Turpentine-Tree, is hot and dry, balſamick, and is a Purifier of the Blood, and an utter Enemy to the Breed of Worms, and other Inſects in the Bodies of Animals.—On the high Hill, and in the low Vale, this moſt excellent Tree will grow and flouriſh, in wide and in narrow, in low and in high Plantations; and thus made ſo ſerve by the cloſe Cover of their Heads, to become delightful, ſhady, cool, and healthful Walks, in the hotteſt Weather; and in Winter to become a verdant Evergreen Sight, and Shelter againſt the Violence of Storms. Nor is this moſt valuable Tree only ſerviceable for the Benefit of Sheep and other Cattle, but it returns the Owner, by its uſeful Wood and the quick Growth of it, as much or more Profit than any of the Timber-Sort of Trees whatſoever. And to come by Plantations of this Fir-Tree in a cheap and eaſy Way, it is only laying their Cones, or what we call Pine-Apples, near a Fire, and the Heat will cauſe them to open, ſo that you may get out the Seed with Eaſe; then, in *March*, you may ſow the Seeds in a fine hearty Earth, which cover with ſifted good Mould, and they'll grow ſo faſt as to be fit for Tranſplantation in two or three Years Time: But take care the Fir Cones are not dried too haſtily and too much, if they are the Seed won't grow; therefore after the Cones are moderately dried, the Seed may be beat out of them with Care by a Hammer, and ſome may be picked out with the Fingers, for they muſt not be bruiſed: And what is particular in this Fir-Tree, if Cows crop the Branches of it, they'll give the Milk a Turpentine Taſte; but as this does not affect Wether Sheep, their feeding on the *Scotch* Fir will keep them

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in the greateſt Health; and after they have been a little uſed to it, they'll eat it like other Food.

The Method made uſe of by ſome Farmers and Graziers, who feed and fat Sheep in freſh Marſhes, and keep them from rotting.---THERE are many of theſe marſhy Situations in ſeveral of thoſe Countries that lie near Rivers, that are often overflow'd with Waters by heavy and long Rains, and by this Means become ſo fertilized, that when more dry Meadow and Paſture Grounds are ſcorch'd by Summer Heats, and the Graſs burnt up, theſe marſhy Lands have full Crops of the rankeſt Graſs on them; inſomuch that many of theſe marſh Farmers and Graziers, who live within forty Miles of *London*, to the Eaſtward of it, buy in from other Parts at conſiderable Diſtances, Calves, to ſuckle and fat them on Cows fed in theſe Marſhes; and after ſuckling them ten or twelve Weeks, they bring them to *Smithfield* Market, and there ſell them to the Butchers: Now what I infer from hence is, that both in freſh and ſalt Marſhes, they fat abundance of Sheep for ſelling them at *London*, and chiefly thoſe of the *Welch* Sort, which are brought up and ſold into *Eſſex*, *Kent*, and other Places every Year: And as they commonly are ſmall Sheep, they are very apt to rot in their freſh Marſhes, which puts them upon their Prevention; and accordingly they rely chiefly on this one Remedy, of giving each Sheep, one Spoonful of Pork-brine every now and then; others add a little Flower of Brimſtone, by mixing a little of it in the Brine: But the Brimſtone is not to be given but very ſeldom, becauſe it is of an opening, ſudorifick Nature; yet as it is endowed with a hot and dry Quality contrary to that of the Rot, it may be of Service as an Antidote. For Doctor *Quincy* ſay, that Flower of Sulphur is certainly balſamick and deterſive; if ſo, it muſt ſurely be a proper Remedy for Sheep to enable them to withſtand the watery Rot, as it has this healing, and drying, and cleanſing Nature in it.---If this Antidote will anſwer, it is a cheap one indeed; but as I never tried it, I cannot ſay it will. However, I have more than one Antidote that are much more certain than this, and which I ſhall give my Readers an Account of in their proper Places.

A Liquor made uſe of to prevent the Rot in Sheep, by the Advice of a Perſon who makes it his Buſineſs to give Remedies to Horſes, Cows, and Sheep.----THIS Perſon, I think, lives in *Bedfordſhire*, and is a ſort of itinerant Horſe, Cow, and Sheep-Doctor, for he keeps Fairs and Markets, carrying

rying a Pair of Leather Bags croſs his Shoulder, with ready prepared Medicines in them, for curing Beaſts of their Diſeaſes. And for preventing the Rot in Sheep, he mixes Salt and Gunpowder together, which he diſſolves in Water, and gives three Spoonfuls of it to a Sheep once a Week, four Times in all, chiefly in *March*.---This he much relies on to prevent the Rot, ſaying that the Salt as well as the Gunpowder are both antivermicular, hot and drying; therefore they oppoſe the Breed of the Dropſy, and that of Plaiſe-Worms; is very ſearching, cleanſes the Blood, and creates an Appetite; and the more, as the Gunpowder is compoſed of Sulphur, Nitre, and Powder of Charcoal; is a cheap Remedy, eaſily made, and ſoon given to a Sheep, with very little Charge to the Farmer, as the Labour goes into the Shepherd's Day's-Work.---The Mixture ſhould be made with one Ounce of Gunpowder, and two Ounces of Salt diſſolved in one Quart of Spring-Water.

The Power of Regulus of Antimony in preventing the Rot in Sheep and Lambs, and curing it when juſt begun.--THIS is recommended by a certain Author, who lays ſuch Streſs on this Ingredient, that, with a little Help of two others, it will take away the Cauſe of a Rot. In his Book he gives the Receipt this Title---*For the Dropſy, or puffing up of the Skin*---This comes (ſays he) by overmuch feeding on moiſt Meat, which gets between the Fleſh and the Skin, and cannot be evacuated by the Pores, or ſweat out, and ſo corrupting, often cauſes the Rot: To remedy this (ſays he) clip off the Wool cloſe behind each Shoulder, and ſlit the Skin there about an Inch; then dip a Tent of Linen Cloth in Oil of Spike, and put it in, and ſo the Water will be drawn thither, and evacuated by twice or thrice renewing the Tent; then ſteep an Ounce of Regulus of Antimony in a Pint of Ale, with a little Spice, called Grains, and a little brown Sugar; give a Quarter of a Pint each Morning as warm as may be, and the Cauſe of the Diſtemper will in a little Time be evacuated.---The ſalutary Effects of this Receipt, I don't diſpute. On the contrary, I verily believe it will anſwer in preventing the Sheep taking the Rot, though it feeds on wettiſh Graſs, becauſe the Regulus is ſo powerful a Medicine, that a certain Phyſician ſays, It is truly a Kind of univerſal Remedy againſt all Diſeaſes. But I have to ſay that, though it may ſtop a begun Rot and prevent its increaſing by deſtroying all Animalcula in the Blood and Liver of a Sheep; yet I don't ſuppoſe it can

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cure a Sheep that has its Liver any thing waſted by the Rot. Again, I have further to add, that, as Regulus of Antimony, when bought at the firſt and beſt Hand, of a Chymiſt or Druggiſt in *London*, will coſt Five Shillings *per* Pound, each Doſe will ſtand a Farmer in Three Halfpence; which is what I well know he will grudge, and thereby be diſcouraged from the Attempt: Wherefore what I have before publiſhed, and what I ſhall hereafter publiſh on this Account, will be found to be ſo cheap, as to leave no Room for ſuch an Objection. I have alſo further to remark, that I find this Receipt ſo canvaſſed by ſeveral Authors, that in their reciting it, one ſays, Give about a Quarter of a Pint of this Regulus Liquor to a Sheep, and repeat it two or three Times, with a Day or two's Intermiſſion between each Time; but the preſent Receipt mentions every Morning: However, it is ſo rough an Ingredient in Medicine, that it becomes more and more in Diſuſe with Phyſicians.

Mr. Worlige's *Annotations on the Rot of Sheep, and his firſt Receipt for it.*---In moiſt Years (ſays he) Sheep are ſubject to the Rot in the ſame Grounds, where in drier Years they are not, and that not only from the Moiſture, for then would Sheep rot in all moiſt Grounds, in dry Years as well as wet; but from a certain Putrefaction of the Air that is in the Graſs and Herbs, that uſually attends them in ſuch moiſt Years, which together with their moiſt Food, do corrupt their Livers, and bring this Diſeaſe.---The Cure whereof (ſays he) is difficult, unleſs it be done betimes, before the Liver is too much waſted.---The Removal of them to the Salt Marſhes is a good Remedy, if it could be done. If *May* and *June* prove wet Months, it cauſes a frim and frothy Graſs, which, together with the bad Air that muſt neceſſarily follow, cauſes the Rot in Sheep; therefore (ſays he) keep your Sheep on the dry and barren Lands, and fodder them in Winter with the hardeſt Hay, or moſt aſtringent Fodder. Some Grounds (continues he) yield a ſoft Graſs more than other, and ſubject to breed the Rot in Sheep: Therefore feed other Cattle there, and your Sheep in the drieſt, hardeſt, and healthieſt Paſtures.

Mr. Worlige's *ſecond Receipt.*---If your Sheep (ſays he) be infected with the Rot, which you may diſcern by the Colour of their Eyes; ſome preſcribe to pen them up in a Barn, or large Sheep-Cote, ſet about with wooden Troughs, and therein feed them with Oats a Day or two; then put amongſt them ſome Bay Salt well ſtamped, and after that

a greater Quantity, till ſuch Time as they begin to diſtaſte it; then give them clean Oats a Day or two, and afterwards ſerve them with Salt as before. This Courſe being followed until their Eyes have recovered their natural Colour, they will then (ſays he) be perfectly cured. Where you have not a Houſe convenient, it may be done open. The Saving of their Dung will anſwer the greateſt Part of your Expences. Folding Sheep in *May* or *June*, if they prove wet, makes them rot the ſooner, becauſe they more greedily devour the hurtful Graſs in a Morning, than thoſe not folded; therefore Liberty from the Fold at this Time, is a good Prevention.

A Receipt to prevent the Rot, by giving a Sheep Urine, &c.----MIX Piſs and Bay Salt together, which thus becomes an Alcali; three Parts Piſs, and one Salt; give a Quartern faſting to each Sheep, and it will vomit and bring up vaſt Quantities of a yellow ropy Matter: This need be uſed only once near the Time of Rotting, then give dry Meat after. A certain Vertuoſo recommends this, as alſo the Powder of Oyſter-Shells made up into Balls, as much of the Powder as will lie on Half a Crown; or give it in Liquor, or the Powder of burnt Egg-Shells; or, as he ſays, make a Decoction very ſtrong of Tithymal, and give Half a Pint of it to each Sheep. This, adds he, has cured the Rot, giving them fine Hay all the while, ſeldom failing of Succeſs.

What a Yorkſhire *Man recommended to prevent, or cure the Rot.*----As I was at an Inn in *London*, there was a *Yorkſhire* Man at the ſame, who, in diſcourſing with me on the Rot of Sheep, ſaid, That Verjuice, Juice of Garlick, and powder'd Lime mix'd together, and given in a proper Quantity, would prevent Sheep rotting.

The Preventing of the Rot in Sheep, according to the Opinion of a certain Chymiſt.----THE late famous Chymiſt, Mr. *Clutton*, who kept a great Shop in *Holborn*, and a large Laboratory in *Cold-Bath Fields*, told me that he did not in the leaſt doubt of preventing all Sheep rotting, let the Weather come how it would, if the Herb Thyme was propagated in Fields, and Sheep obliged to feed thereon, becauſe of its warm drying Nature, that would alſo produce a ſweet Taſte in the Mutton.

An Apothecary's Notions, how certain Compoſitions of his will prevent the Rot in Sheep.----TAKE (ſays he) true crude Antimony, Wood-Soot, hepatick Sulphur, and Sal Nitre, *Half an* Ounce each; grind them to a fine Powder, each

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of them ſeparately; then mix and keep them in a Glaſs for Uſe, thus: Boil a good Handful of Rue, cut ſmall, in a Quart of Ale or Water to a Pint, with a little Pimento and common Salt in it; then ſtrain, and add to it an Ounce of the above Powder; ſhake it well, and give a Quarter of a Pint to every Sheep, once or twice a Week, to be continued at Diſcretion as the Caſe requires, keeping them as dry as you can----Or take Æthiops Mineral two Ounces, Wood-Soot one Ounce, rubb'd into a very fine Powder, given as above, rubbing a little common Salt upon the Tongue as ſoon as ſwallowed.---Or take Vermillion finely ground, Honey and Sal Prunella each one Ounce, mix for four Doſes.---To remark on theſe Receipts, I have to obſerve, that let the above Compoſitions be ever ſo valuable, I am certain, that Farmers will make no uſe of them, becauſe of the Difficulty that attends their Knowledge, and of mixing and uſing them, and the Charge of buying the Ingredients. For, as far as I have experienced them, I think there are no People ſhier of being perſuaded into the Uſe of new Matters than common Farmers are, who are ſo very diffident, that I have known ſeveral of them diſbelieve and reject the Uſe of a moſt cheap, plain Medicine, though offer'd to them gratis, which I was ſure would have prevented their Sheep rotting, if they were not removed out of the worſt wet Vale Ground they feed on: And in Juſtification of this their Doubtfulneſs, they alledge, they cannot believe there is any Medicine that can have this great and profitable Effect on Sheep; and further ſay, that if this could be done cheaply and ſurely with little Trouble, that Man ought to ride in a Coach and Six that does it. This is their common Excuſe for not attempting to prevent their Flocks rotting: Whereas I am the very Man who infallibly do all this, and yet, inſtead of riding in my Coach, I ſuppoſe I may go bare-foot for them; for they are ſo far from buying my Receipt, that they have refuſed to try my Liquor, though I have offer'd it to ſeveral of them, as I ſaid, gratis.

The Receipt of a Perſon, who ſays a Mixture of a certain Meat given to Sheep in a Trough, will preſerve them from the Rot.---CHOP Rue or Wormwood (ſays he) and mix it with Salt; put a little of this among Peaſe and Chaff, or among Bran in a Trough, and let the Sheep feed on it in wet Seaſons, when there is Cauſe to apprehend a Rot will enſue.

Of the Vertue of Tar-Water, as it may relate to the preventing of the Rot in Sheep.---'Tis well known, that the learned, excellent, and worthy Prelate, the Biſhop of *Cloyne*, has ſtrenuouſly adviſed and recommended the giving Tar-water to diſtemper'd Cattle, to prevent, as well as to cure their Diſeaſes. And indeed this univerſal Medicine (ſo much recommended by the Biſhop) will appear very conſentaneous to Reaſon, when we conſider Tar (as Authors ſay) is a powerful Reſolvent, Aperient, Detergent, Balſamick, Digeſtive, Diaphoretick, Corrective, and is a great Cordial, though of the moſt mild and benign Nature.--- Wherefore it is my humble Opinion that, if Half a Pint of Tar-Water was made, according to the Biſhop's Receipt for the Uſe of the human Body, and given once or twice a Week to a Sheep that is in Danger of rotting, it would tend much towards preventing the Misfortune: But this I ſay without Trial, for I never experienced it, as I have done another that ſurely will.

To ſave Sheep from the Rot, by Gervaiſe Markham.---- If a Sheep has Water in his Belly, between the outward Fleſh and the Rim, then you may (ſays he) ſafely adventure to let it forth by making a little Hole through the Fleſh, and putting in a Quill; but if it be between the Rim and the Bag, then it is incurable, for you may by no Means cut the Rim aſunder; when the Water is let forth, you ſhall ſtitch up the Hole, and anoint it with Tar and Butter mix'd together. This Water, if it remain in the Belly of the Sheep, will rot it. This Diſeaſe of Rottenneſs is the cruelleſt of all other among Sheep, and extendeth its Violence over all the Flock; nay, over Townſhips and Countries: And though it be held of moſt Men incurable, yet good Government, and this Receipt I ſhall deliver you, will not only prevent it, but preſerve your Sheep ſafe; therefore, as ſoon as you perceive that any of your Sheep are tainted, you ſhall take Adraces, which is a certain Salt gathered from the Salt Marſhes in the Heat of the Summer, when the Tide is going away, and leaving certain Drops of Salt Water on the Graſs, then the violent Heat of the Sun turns it to Salt; and to ſpeak briefly, all Salt made by the Violence of the Sun's Heat only, is taken for Adraces, of which there is infinite Store in *Spain*: With this Adraces, rub the Mouths of all your Sheep once a Week, and you need never fear the rotting of them; for it has been well tried, and, as I imagine, (ſays this Author further) the Experiment

periment was found out from this very Ground: It is a Rule, and well known in *Lincolnſhire* and *Kent*, that upon the Salt Marſhes Sheep never die of the Rot, no other Reaſon being known therefore but the licking up of that Salt; and without Doubt, it is moſt infallible and moſt eaſy, ſays this ancient Author, who wrote in 1630.

The Receipt of William Seers, *an old Shepherd of* Stutely, *in the County of* Bucks, *for fatting and curing rotten Sheep.*---THIS Receipt I know no more of, than as it is recommended with great Aſſurance by this Shepherd, for fatting and curing rotten Sheep, which he inſiſts upon to be a certain Cure, if it is given when the Rot is but newly begun. Then he ſays, Take Rue and ſtamp it, and when it is well ſtamped, mix it with Muſtard-ſeed, firſt likewiſe ſtampt; then make them into a Sort of Conſiſtence, like a Salve: And for uſing it, ſtir (ſays he) a little of this into a Quarter of a Pint of Ale, and give it to a Sheep three Mornings together.

The Receipt of a Perſon, who by it cured two rotten Sheep.---A PERSON that was Maſter of the following Secret, ſeeing three Sheep that appeared to him as rotten ones, ſaid to the Farmer, their Owner, if they were but a little rotten he was ſure he could cure them: The Trial was conſented to, and put into Practice by making uſe of the following Receipt.----Take *Barbadoes* Tar and Flower of Brimſtone, as much of both as will fill an Egg-ſhell; theſe being mix'd, half one and half the other, were put into Half a Pint of new Milk, and given to each Sheep a little warm'd; miſs a Week and repeat it.----Now it happened, that one of theſe three Sheep, that had this Doſe given it, was hung by its Horns in a Hedge, and not being able to deliver itſelf, remain'd ſo all Night, but found dead in the ſame Poſture next Morning. When the Farmer came to ſee the Accident, it moved his Curioſity to ſee the Inſide of this Sheep's Body, to ſee what Effect the Doſe had on its Liver, and, to his great Surprize found, that where the Rot had begun, and the Medicine had made an Impreſſion on it, the Liver had Part of it healed, and was plainly knitting again for a Recovery: The other two Sheep remained alive, and in ſeeming good Health.

An Account of Sheeps taking the Rot.---THIS Account is taken from a little Twopenny Book, ſold about the Country, and at Markets and Fairs, intituled, *The good Huſband's Jewel.*---There is (ſays its Author) a Diſeaſe or Sorrain in Sheep, commonly called the Rot, or Rottenneſs, which

Sheep

Sheep are ſubject to in many Countries, whereby many have been much weakened in their Eſtates by the Death of their Sheep in that Diſeaſe. They get it by feeding upon Ketlock, or other ſuch Weed growing in fallow Fields; or by feeding on ſhort Graſs or Lees, or Lands Ends where many Worm-ſprouts be, which the Sheep, feeding upon that Graſs, do lick up all the Gravel wrought up by the Worms ingendering, which is a great Cauſe of their Rottenneſs: Others get it by feeding on a low level Ground, where, when a ſudden Rain cometh, the Water ſtandeth, and cannot eaſily get away; and the Sheep that continually uſe that Ground, will ſlop much Water with the Graſs, which, if the Weather be cold, will do them Hurt, but not ſo much as if 'tis warm. Many Shepherds ſay, that if the Weather be hot, their Sheep will take the Rot in twenty-four Hours, if they be not removed into other Grounds; Therefore, careful Shepherds, as ſoon as they ſee the Ground wet, and the Day hot, will move their Sheep into higher Grounds for a Space, till the Water be dried away: Theſe cauſe Diſeaſes, thus deſcribed, *viz.* The Water, and the aforeſaid Things, bring a Faintneſs on Sheep, putrefy, corrupt, and conſume the Blood, and turn it into a wateriſh Humour; ſo the Blood, that is the Life and Strength of the Fleſh, being waſted and corrupted, the Body muſt needs periſh. Then this Author goes on and ſays---To prevent this Evil, and keep Sheep ſound, is firſt carefully to remove them in wet Weather, and to keep them upon the drieſt Ground. They are (ſays he) moſt ſubject to this Diſeaſe in *April*, *May*, *September*, and *October*, which is called the Spring and Fall of the Year: They ſeldom take it in Winter, nor much in Summer, between theſe Times, unleſs the Winter be very wet, foggy, and warm withal; for if it be, they will take it upon the aforenamed Grounds, if they be not removed, or have ſome other Help done unto them in due Time. To this Account he adds as follows, *viz.*

A Rule to make a Drink to prevent the Rot in Sheep, and to keep them ſound from Year to Year, is this that followeth.---

TAKE a Peck, or better, of Malt, and maſh it, as though you would brew it into Beer, and make of the Malt eleven or twelve Gallons of the Liquor; then boil in that Liquor a good Quantity of Herbs, Shepherd's-Purſe, Comfrey, Sage, Plantane, Penny-Royal, Wormwood, and Blood-wort, of each a good Quantity, and boil them in the ſaid Liquor

Liquor very well; then ſtrain them forth, and put therein ſome Barm, and after the Barm, a Peck of Salt, tun and put them up in Veſſels; then give it your Sheep in wet Weather after *April* comes in; ſeven or eight large Spoonfuls a-peice every Week once, if the Weather be wet; if it be dry, you need not ſo often; and ſo continue till *May* or after, as you ſee Cauſe, according to the Drineſs and Wetneſs of the Weather; give ſometimes a Lick of Tar, mixed with Herb of Grace chopt, and it will cleanſe the Bowels of much Corruption, and be healthful to the Body. If you be careful to follow this Practice, you ſhall (ſays this Author) by God's Help, keep the Sheep from the Rot. The Price of one Sheep will be ſufficient to prevent the Diſeaſe in twenty; therefore I hold it beſt for every Man to ſpend one for the ſaving of twenty, rather than loſe twenty in ſparing the Price of one. I would not (continues he) have you follow the old Proverb, in which it is ſaid, That Man would loſe a Ship for a Halfpennyworth of Tar.

Remarks made by this Author on the foregoing Receipt.---THE unknown Author of this Receipt ſays, That for preventing the Rot in Sheep, it is neceſſary to remove them in wet Weather into higher, drier Land; and he is certainly right in ſo ſaying: But what muſt thoſe Vale Farmers do that occupy no other than all level Grounds, as the Caſe is with moſt of them? Why, if an Antidote or Remedy is not of that Efficacy as to prevent the Rot, though the Sheep feed all the while on ſuch level wet Land, they muſt rot and die. This leads me to obſerve, how far this Receipt will anſwer on this Account.----The Herbs are certainly good, and ſo is the Malt Liquor when mix'd with the Salt, if the Salt do not prove too ſharp and corroding for the Sheep's Entrails. But I will ſuppoſe that all the Ingredients when mix'd together, anſwer ſo far, as that the Receipt deſerves a good Character; yet, without the Help of ſhifting the Sheep in dangerous wet Seaſons, as he well obſerves, into drier Ground, I don't ſuppoſe the Medicine will entirely defend them againſt the Rot; wherefore that Receipt which has ſeveral Times been experienced to ſave all Sheep from the Rot that have been doſed by its Directions, although they fed all the while on that very wet ſpewy Ground, on which all others rotted that fed on the ſame, muſt conſequently be a more true and valuable Receipt; and ſuch a Receipt, that has not near the Ingredients this has, is ſooner and

cheaper

cheaper made, and done with far leſs Trouble, I ſhall in my third and laſt Book make known.

The Devonſhire *Receipt to prevent and cure the Rot in Sheep.*---I HAVE been inform'd, that in the Pariſh of *Sidbury*, in this County, they have a Weed, called Spurwood or Spearwort, that they ſay runs up like a Pike, and as the Sheep feed in their low Grounds here, they eat this Weed, and that it tends much to the rotting of them: To prevent which, they chop Rue, Wormwood, and Ronclewort, and boil half a Handful of each in three Quarts of Man's or Boy's Urine; and after faſting the Sheep a Night, they give four Spoonfuls of it Blood-warm, with a Lick of Tar, mix'd with ſome Flower of Brimſtone, miſſing one Day, and giving it another, for five Times. But to explain the Spearwort and other pernicious Weeds or Graſs, I ſhall recite the Words of an old, but good Author, as follows.

What Things chiefly rot Sheep, by J--- B-----.—IT is neceſſary (ſays he) that a Shepherd ſhould know what Things chiefly rot the Sheep, that he may the better preſerve them. There is a Graſs, called Spearwort; it has a long narrow Leaf like a Spear's Head, it will grow a Foot high, and it beareth a yellow Flower as broad as a Penny; it groweth always in low Places, where the Water uſeth to ſtand in Winter. Another Graſs is called Penny-Graſs, it groweth low, cloſe to the Earth, in mooriſh Grounds; it hath a Leaf as broad as Twopence, but never beareth a Flower. All Manner of Graſs that a Land-Flood runs over, is bad for Sheep, becauſe of the Sand and Filth that ſticketh upon it: All mooriſh Ground, and marſh Ground, is bad for Sheep: The Graſs that groweth upon Fallows is not good for Sheep, for there is much of it weedy, and oftentimes it cometh up by the Root, and that bringeth Earth with it; and the Sheep eat both: Mildew-Graſs is very bad for Sheep, and that we may find out by the Leaves of the Trees in the Morning, and eſpecially of Oaks: Take the Leaves (ſays he) and put thy Tongue to them, and thou ſhalt taſte like Honey upon them; therefore the Sheep ſhould not be let out of the Fold till the Sun hath Power to dry up the Mildew. Want of Food will cauſe a great Rot among Sheep; for then they'll have neither good Fleſh nor good Skins. White Sincles are very bad for Sheep in Paſtures and in Fallows. There is another Rot (continues he) that is called the Pellet, which proceeds from great Wet, eſpecially

eſpecially in woody Countries, where they find Want of Drineſs.

What Things rot Sheep, with Prognoſticks that threaten it before it happens, and how to prevent it, by James Lambert. —ABOUT *Bartholomew-Tide*, or the Beginning of *September* (ſays he) go out in the Morning as ſoon as the Sun riſes clear, and taſte the Dew upon the Graſs of your Paſtures, and if it be bitter or brackiſh, or many long gliſtening Flakes, or Streaks, like the Weavings of Spiders lie on it, and ſo it continues for ſome Time, it prognoſticates a Rot, or a very unhealthy Winter for Sheep, eſpecially in the low, wet Grounds; or if they feed among Graſs that has not been mowed, to prevent the Rot taking hold of them, rub their Mouths once a Week with the Salt called Adracci, diſſolved in ſharp Vinegar, and fright them early about the Paſtures with a Dog, till they are well heated; for this beats the Mildews from the Graſs, and other Dews that are hurtful to them in feeding; alſo the Nettles, Webs, and Flaſks, which otherwiſe they might lick up, and thoſe contribute to the Rot much.

The Somerſetſhire *Way of preventing and curing the Rot of Sheep.*---WHEN I was in theſe Parts on my Travels, I was told, that ſome give four Spoonfuls of Brine to each Sheep; a Remedy, that in the low, wet Grounds of this County, they much rely on, and ſay, If a Sheep is touch'd with the Rot, it will fetch it back again; and that if this is given now and then, in dangerous Times, it will prevent the Rot.

How rotten Sheep recover'd that were not too far gone in the Rot, by cutting their Skin, and thereby letting out a Water, and feeding them at a Stack of Beans.---IN the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, a Man form'd a Project to cure rotten Sheep; and it is ſaid, he recovered ſeveral of them by a deſperate Attempt, which was thus performed:—With a Penknife he made an Inciſion, by opening the Skin near the Pizzle of a Wether-Sheep, and the Udder of a Ewe, and thereby drew out a Quart of dropſical Water from a Sheep at a Time; and as the Rim of its Belly was not damaged, the Skin was ſew'd up, and the Beaſt at Liberty during the Winter and Spring, to feed at a Stack of Beans; which Management is ſaid to cauſe the Sheep to knit, and gave them a palliative Cure.

A Caſe ſhewing how ſeveral Chiltern Hertfordſhire *Farmers, clandeſtinely took in conſiderable Numbers of Sheep at*

their own, that were in Danger of rotting, or were rotting in Ayleſbury *Vale, in the Year* 1735; *and how by this Means they ſurcharg'd Commons, and were detected.*---THIS, and the like Caſes, have eſcaped the Knowledge of all Authors whatſoever, and I ſuppoſe, with juſt Reaſon, for I don't know how they ſhould be appriz'd of it, if they had not ſome ſuch Opportunity as I have; that is to ſay, by living in a Chiltern Country near a Vale; for, by this Means, I am by Experience, acquainted with the Nature of the Matter I am here writing of; which is to inform my Reader, that when Vale Farmers are under a juſt Apprehenſion that a great Rot is likely, or has befallen their Sheep, it puts thoſe who have a Relief in View, to find out an Opportunity to ſave them if they can: For this Purpoſe, ſeveral of thoſe Farmers living in *Ayleſbury* Vale, within two or three Miles of our hilly, chiltern Country, ſeek'd out for Opportunities, in the Year 1735, (when a very great and general Rot among Sheep happened) to graze many of their Sheep on thoſe dry Commons that lie here, which are not, by Cuſtom, ſtinted to any certain Number of Sheep: Accordingly many of the Vale Farmers agreed with Chiltern Farmers to pay them for the ſame, at ſo much a Score, to remain till ſuch a Time: But it was not long before this ſiniſter Practice, in moſt Places, was put a Stop to, particularly in our Parts: For although ſeveral of our Chiltern Farmers, who have (as I have) a Right to feed Sheep on two unlimited Commons, *viz.* that of *Little Gaddeſden* and *Barkhamſtead*, took in, as their own, for Lucre Sake, great Numbers of Vale Sheep that were in Danger of rotting, or had got the Rot, to feed and ſave their Lives on theſe dry Commons; this ſo highly provoked other Farmers, that were not guilty of ſuch clandeſtine ſurcharging our Commons, as to diſpute the Matter with thoſe that were: And for proving they acted contrary to Law and Equity, we went to Council, whoſe Opinion was, that, although a Common is not ſtinted as to the Number of Sheep, that every Farmer who has a Right to it, ſhould keep, yet where a uſual proportionable Number of Sheep have been kept, Time out of Mind, to ſuch a Quantity of Arable Land in each Farm, it is a Rule to calculate a Surcharge by; or that no Farmer ſhould keep more Sheep on his Farm, than his Neighbours do in Proportion to the Farm he occupies: I ſay Arable Land, becauſe Paſture-Land comes not into this Account. Now this Opinion of the Counſellor, had ſuch

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an Effect on all Farmers concern'd in this Affair, that thoſe who took in Vale Flocks to ſave them from dying by the Rot, and to fold them on their plough'd Grounds, were directly diſcouraged into a parting with them; and thus were returned into the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, from whence they came. Yet this was not the Caſe of all our Chiltern Farmers, for there were ſome of the abler Sort, who had Money enough to buy ſome of theſe Sheep, in whoſe Bodies the Rot had begun; and buy them they did at a moſt cheap Rate, and then pleaded that, as theſe Sheep were their own, and they not obliged to any certain Number, they thought they were under no Crime of ſurcharging the Commons. But the Counſellor gave them to underſtand otherwiſe, and that there was an Act of Parliament that affected their Caſe in ſuch a Manner, that an Action might be brought againſt that Farmer who was an Aggreſſor in ſurcharging the Common: And further ſaid to one of them, in my Hearing, that he would pinch him through both his Ears, if he continued grazing a larger Flock on *Barkham-ſtead* Common, than what was his Share to keep, according to the ancient and uſual Number of folding Sheep that were kept on his Farm. Upon this, the Farmer, or rather Yeoman (for he was Owner of a pretty large Farm) whoſe Name was *Richard Dean* of *Nettleden*, deſired to know how many Sheep he might keep; and after ſome Diſputes his Number was adjuſted: For you muſt know, that the Counſellor, *Francis Neale*, Eſq; then living at *Ivinghoe*, in the County of *Bucks*, was feed, by the Farmers in general, to decide this Matter in an equitable Way; and decide it he did, to moſt of their Satisfactions. But to come cloſer to the Matter, I have to obſerve to my Reader, that theſe Vale Sheep, thus infected by a begun Rot, were many of them put on our chiltern dry Commons, with an Intent, that after they had been here ſome Time, they would knit again; that is to ſay, the Rot thus begun, would be directly ſtopt, by their Livers becoming cruſted or knotted, as it has often happened to many that have been removed out of wet Vale Lands, to dry, hilly, Chiltern Lands in due Time, and thus have met with a palliative Cure. But for ſetting this Matter in a clearer Light, I ſhall give an Account of ſeveral Facts relating to the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

A rotten Sheep lived a Year, and then fatted.----THIS was true Matter of Fact, as it was related to me by my creditable Neighbour, who was an Eye-witneſs of the Caſe.

A Wether Sheep was got ſo rotten, as to be jogg'd under its Jaw, and ſcour'd withal; yet, on bringing them out of a wet Farm into a dry one, ſituated on a Hill, in the Pariſh of *Great Gaddeſden*, where the Soil is a gravelly Loam, this particular Sheep fed on the Fallow Grounds, and on the Graſs Baulks of plowed Fields for about a Year, and, in that Time, ſo knit as to dung Buttons; at laſt it was put, with others, into the Farmer's beſt Graſs, and there ſo well fatted, as to ſell for one Guinea.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who having twenty Wether Sheep feeding for fatting in a low, wet Meadow, they took the Rot, but being removed in Time, into dry Ground, they fed, fatted, and ſold well.----THESE Sheep had for their Owner, a Farmer that rented a Farm of about an hundred a Year, conſiſting of a chalky, gravelly, loamy Soil, that lies all incloſed in our chiltern Country; here he kept a large Flock of Folding or Store Sheep, out of which he ſingled twenty of his beſt full-mouth'd Wethers, and put them into his Turnip-Field about *December*, in order to fat them for the Butcher. But ſo it happened, that in the Spring-Time, when his Turnips had been eaten off, theſe twenty Sheep were not full fat, and therefore the Farmer, not having a proper grazing Ground of his own to carry on their Fatting, he hired a low Meadow in his Neighbourhood for carrying forward their Fatting: But ſo it happened, that while theſe twenty Sheep were fatting in this Meadow, a very rainy Time followed, and brought theſe Sheep under the Rot; which their Owner ſuſpecting in Time, directly endeavour'd to ſell them off in the Year 1745; and as the Sheep were got forward in Fleſh, and of a good Size, Farmer *Peacock*, of *Redburn* in *Hertfordſhire*, who, I ſuppoſe, was ignorant of the Danger they were in, was the Perſon that bought them for Store-Sheep, at about ſixteen Shillings a-piece, and at laſt fatted them in his Clover, *&c.* till he ſold them for twenty Shillings a-peice; by which he got their Folding, and about forty Shillings by their Wool, beſides the Increaſe of their Price: But it was obſerved, that every one of theſe Sheep died with a kernally, corey, and ſpecky Liver.---This Caſe leads me to remark, that, had theſe Sheep been kept a little longer in the wet Meadow, it was more than probable, they would have been paſt Remedy; however, as they happened to be moved in Time, to feed on a dry, hilly, gravelly, loamy Soil, they knit and became tolerable fat.

The Caſe of a prudent, foreſighted Middleſex *Farmer, who, on a juſt Suſpicion, that his large Flock of Sheep had received the Rot, took thoſe Meaſures that redounded much to his Profit.*----By the many Showers of Rain that fell, after a long Seaſon of dry Weather, beginning about the latter End of *May*, 1747, and continuing, with little Intermiſſions, for, I think, near three Weeks or more, the Wheat and Barley, eſpecially in Vale Grounds, grew ſo ſpeedy and ſo rank into Stalk, that moſt of them fell down flat before they had fully paſs'd their blooming and kerning Seaſon, and thereby gave the Weeds an Opportunity to make a luxuriant Growth, and run up through them, to the great Damage of Thouſands of Crops; for, by the early Bent of the green Stalks of their Wheat and Barley, the Sap became check'd to that Degree, as cauſed the Kernals to want their due Nouriſhment, and ſo became thin-bodied, even to the Loſs of one Third, or more, of their uſual Bigneſs, notwithſtanding the exceeding fine Harveſt-Weather that followed, and laſted from about the Beginning of *July* till towards *Michaelmas*: While our chiltern Crops of Wheat and Barley, that grew in leaner and drier Land, for the moſt Part, ſtood upright, and flouriſh'd in the higheſt Degree of Goodneſs and Plenty. From all which, I would obſerve to my Reader, that by thoſe long rainy Seaſons, that continued till near *Midſummer*, a *Midſummer* Rot enſued, and great Numbers of Vale Sheep became tainted by it; as did many likewiſe in ſome of their *Middleſex* Grounds: For you muſt know, that the greateſt Part of the Lands that lie in this County, have flattiſh Situations, and a clayey Bottom, that retain Waters on their Surface ſometimes for a long while; for which Reaſon, their Sheep, tho' they feed in Meadows, are very liable to rot; and accordingly many of their Farmers found it ſo to their Loſs, eſpecially thoſe that did not take timely Precautions, and make the moſt of a bad Hap, as this Farmer did I am going to mention: Who living between *Harrow-on-the-Hill* and *Brentford*, and occupying a large Farm of flat, wet, rich Land, kept about twelve Score Store-Sheep on it, that in long, rainy, wet Seaſons, were very ſubject to be rotted; and as he thought the Rot had begun in them, he prudently killed two or three of them at the Beginning of *Auguſt*, 1747, to make a Diſcovery how far the Rot had ſeized them; and he found that the Livers of theſe three Sheep were ſo infected, that he eaſily eſtimated the

Condition

Condition the reſt of the Flock was in, which induced him to draw out a pretty many of his beſt Wethers, and put them into the richeſt Graſs he had, here to fat for Market againſt the following *Michaelmas*, or *Alhallontide* at furtheſt; for if he kept them till they rotted much, and ſunk of their Fleſh, his Market was ſpoiled; and this would ſurely have been their Caſe, if they had arrived to a Criſis of Fatneſs, that is to ſay, a certain Degree of it, and he would not have ſold them off: But being well adviſed by an Uncle of his, an old Sheep Dealer, who, for many Years, had been concern'd in buying Sheep in the Weſt, and ſelling them in the Eaſt Country; it was this Perſon that put this Farmer, his Nephew, in the Way, to kill a Sheep often in dangerous Seaſons, to ſee if any of them were touch'd with the Rot; if he found they were, he was to fat them preſently, in order to loſe nothing by them.

A Sheep ſuſpected to be rotten, was kill'd by a Shepherd to prove the ſame, and how he found its Liver full of Plaiſe-Worms.----A PARTICULAR Sheep, amongſt a large Flock, (as the Shepherd told me) was obſerved by him to decay in its Fleſh, and pined ſo faſt away, that he thought it muſt die, notwithſtanding the good Food that was beſtowed upon it; this tempted the Shepherd to kill it, and the rather, for that he wanted to find out the Cauſe of it; which he was ſoon ſatisfied of, when he found the Liver half eaten up by Plaiſe-Worms, and the remaining Half full of them, to the Quantity, he verily believed, of what a Boy could hold in one of his Hands.---Now, why this Sheep ſhould be rotten, and not the reſt of the Flock, may be occaſioned by its feeding in a particular wet Part of a Field, longer than any other Sheep; or, that it was one that was added to a Flock, by being bought and brought from a Vale, or other low wet Ground; or by ſome other Means brought into this Condition: But let the Cauſe be what it will, the Rot was here diſcovered to be in the higheſt Degree of Rancor, becauſe it was impoſſible ſuch a Sheep could live. ----From whence I infer, that this Caſe, with many others, that I expoſe in theſe Books, may become Part of a Spectacle of Nature, for ſhewing how theſe moſt ſerviceable Animals are eaten alive by theſe Vermin; and what damaged, unwholſome Mutton many, eſpecially the poorer Sort of People, eat. But for further explaining this Matter, I ſhall obſerve and ſhew,

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The Make and Shape of Plaiſe-Worms, with an Attempt to prove how they breed in the Bodies of rotten Sheep.---A PLAISE-Worm is about the Bigneſs of the Nail of a Boy's Little Finger, with a peekiſh Head and Tail, of a flattiſh Make, ſomewhat like the Fiſh called a Plaiſe or Flounder: Its Tail has generally a friſking Motion with it; it has no Legs, but crawls by the Help of its rough Belly, and has a Back of a yellow browniſh Colour. Theſe deſtructive Worms are, I ſuppoſe, bred by the Corruption of Blood, for the Blood muſt be firſt vitiated by the Sheep's feeding on unwholſome Graſs or Weeds, or by Poverty, or otherwiſe; from whence are bred the Seeds or Eggs of Plaiſe-Worms, which circulating with the Blood, make their Neſt or Lodgment in the Fountain, that is to ſay, in the Liver of the Beaſt; where, if they cannot be kill'd, they will eat it till they kill the Sheep: For theſe Plaiſe-Worms are of ſo hardy a Nature, that when they are once bred, and take Poſſeſſion of the Liver, they will continue feeding and living on it, till they quite devour it; and when the Sheep is dead, theſe Inſects die not with it, but will live afterwards, while they have the ſame Sort of tender Subſiſtence to feed on; and in the Height of their Proſperity will leap and friſk about.

Two rotten Ewe Sheep, how they knit and recovered, one by eating Ivy Leaves, and the other by Change of Paſture.---- THESE Ivy Leaves are to be had at all Times of the Year, even when the deepeſt Snows lie on the Ground; and this in both Chiltern and Vale Countries, by Reaſon Ivy is an Evergreen, that twiſts and climbs about the Bodies of Trees, to a great Height; and grows alſo cloſe to Walls, Pales, and creeps along the Bottom of Hedges, and about them, with its ſubſtantial Leaves, that have in them ſome excellent Qualities, being of a hot and dry Nature; and, by Phyſicians, are ſaid to ſtop Fluxes, and cure divers Diſeaſes in the human Body, both inwardly and outwardly: Shepherds therefore have a great Value for them, as they are very ſerviceable to Sheep on ſeveral Accounts.----A Ewe Sheep that had a great Cough, and was deemed a rotten one, recover'd, by having ſome of theſe Ivy Leaves given it to feed on, only now and then; and thereby became ſo well, as to have ſeveral Lambs afterwards.----I knew alſo a poor Man, that bought a Ewe Sheep in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, for a very little Money, as a rotten one, but by keeping it on a dry, hilly Ground, it knit, and had ſeveral

Lambs;

Lambs; however, at laſt, it died rotten.---By which, and ſome of the foregoing Accounts, it may plainly appear, that though Sheep have taken a Rot, by feeding on wet, low, Vale Ground, yet many have received a palliative Cure by Alteration of Grazing.

Sheep prevented rotting by Coltsfoot Leaves, &c.---BOIL a Handful, or more, of Coltsfoot Leaves, in three Quarts of Milk, with half a Handful of Wood-Soot; ſtrain it, and give Half a Pint, lukewarm, to each Sheep.---Coltsfoot has a yellow Flower, that appears in the Month of *March*, in many of our chiltern, wet, loamy, and other Lands, and throws out its broad Leaves in *April* and *May*, in Shape like a Colt's Foot; and is of an extream wholſome Nature for ſeveral Uſes.---A Phyſician gives it this Character, for the human Body. He ſays, it grows in pleaſant Brooks and Rivers that make a Noiſe, flowing ſuddenly in *February* and *March*, before the Leaves grow forth: It is one of the greater Pectorals, and Traumaticks; it cures Coughs, Colds, Hoarſeneſs, Shortneſs of Breath, Aſthmas, Inflammations, and Ulcers of the Lungs, Spitting Blood, Want of Voice, *&c.* It ripens and breaks Impoſtumes in the Breaſt, cures Quartans, Wounds, and old Sores, by uſing the Eſſence.---And as to the Nature of Soot, it is accounted the lighteſt Part of combuſtible Matter, elevated from the more weighty, turn'd thick and black by Cold: It is ſharp, piercing, and cleanſing, and ſeldom uſed alone. Of Soot an Oil and Salt is made, that, by Phyſicians, is ſaid to have a wonderful Virtue in refreſhing and ſtrengthning the Spirits; to be good in Fits, and for curing Ulcers and Cancers, *&c.*

How cheap rotten Sheep ſold in the great and general Rot of 1735, &c.----THIS Rot of Sheep and Lambs was the moſt general one, I believe, that has happened in the Memory of Man, becauſe it rotted thoſe Deer, Sheep, Lambs, Hares, and Coneys, that fed on Lands where Rain Waters were retain'd on, or near the Surface of the Earth, for ſome Time; inſomuch, that ſome Farmers have loſt two Flocks by it, in little more than a Year's Time: And, as I have already obſerved, the dead Bodies of rotten Sheep were ſo numerous in Roads, Lanes, and Fields, that their Carrion Stench, and Smell, proved extremely offenſive to the neighbouring Parts, and to paſſant Travellers; notwithſtanding the great Numbers that were ſold off at Fairs and Markets, to prevent their dying at home. In this wet

Year,

Year, one hundred and ſeventeen Sheep were ſold at *Leighton* great Market in *Bedfordſhire*, for ſix Guineas, on the 16th Day of *September*, when they were in a very rotten Condition.---Likewiſe another Farmer, that lived at, or near *Stutely*, a Pariſh about five Miles diſtant from that Town, having had an hundred Sheep to ſell here, that came off very wet Land, rather than drive them home again, took Sixpence a-piece for them; for they were known, both by the Seller and Buyer, to be in a moſt rotten Condition, and the Seller knew that if he drove them home again, he was ſure they would die; and dying under a lean Rot, they would be only fit for dunging the Ground with: This laſt Sale of Sheep was made in *October*, 1735.----Now ſome may wonder, that, after a Farmer has loſt his whole Flock by the Rot, he ſhould buy in another Flock ſo ſoon, as to have both rotted in little more than one Year's Time; but when it is conſider'd, that the Succeſs of their Crops of Grain depends, in all Vale Countries, on their dreſſing their Plow'd Grounds, by folding Sheep on it, the Neceſſity of buying in more Sheep is plainly accounted for; for indeed there is no ſuch Thing as farming rightly in ſuch Parts without Sheep; therefore this Vale Farmer bought a ſecond Flock of Sheep in the ſame Year his firſt died by the Rot, in hopes that the rotten Seaſon had been over. Again, the Neceſſity of buying in another Flock of Sheep was ſo much the greater, as Vale Farmers are generally deprived of coming by any Opportunity of getting Soot, Aſhes, Horn Shavings, or other Manure, for improving their Crops of Grain, becauſe they live too far off *London* for bringing them home at a tolerable Charge; but if they could, there are very few Places, in Vales, that would agree with any Dreſſing ſo well, as with the Fold or Dungs of Beaſts, tame Fowls, and Pigeons.---- A ſuckling Farmer, living near *Buſhy* in *Hertfordſhire*, told me he had above an hundred of his ſuckling Ewes killed by the Rot, in 1735, beſides ſelling twenty of them for Eighteenpence a-piece, and loſt all the Money; for he was never paid for them.

Why rotten Sheep will fat ſooner than ſound Sheep.---- WHAT I am going to advance, may indeed, at firſt, ſeem a Paradox to my Reader, but I hope to give a reaſonable Solution to the Queſtion. I have before ſaid, that a Sheep's Liver cannot rot before Plaiſe-Worms are bred, and got Poſſeſſion in it. I here likewiſe further ſay, that when the Caſe is thus, a Sheep has ſo many little Wolves in its Liver

as there be Plaiſe-Worms; for I take all Worms to be endowed with a wolfiſh Nature, witneſs the quick Diſpatch, whatever Fleſh or Vegetable they feed on. This being granted, the next Notion I have to advance is, that as it is cuſtomary for all Farmers that have Graſs, or other agreeable Meat, enough to turn their begun rotten Sheep into the beſt of it, for feeding and fatting on the ſame, with all Expedition; ſuch Sheep will eat more Meat, and fat ſooner than a ſound Sheep, becauſe, as I have before hinted, the Plaiſe-Worms muſt be fed, as well as the Sheep's Carcaſs, beſides; and feed they do with a greater Appetite than a ſound Sheep does, which cauſes them to fat a-pace, and become fit for an early Market, before they ſink of their Fleſh; and ſo poſſeſs'd are many Graziers of this Opinion, that a rotten Sheep will fat ſooner than a ſound Sheep, that they make no Doubt of it, where they have Meat enough; for they have found by many Trials, that at the Beginning of a Rot, no Sheep feeds nor fats faſter then a rotten Sheep, notwithſtanding the Plaiſe-Worms multiply as the Rot increaſes; this makes the common Saying true, that no Sheep thrive faſter than rotten Sheep do for a Time, and that no Sheep decays ſooner than a rotten Sheep, after it begins to ſink in its Fleſh. However, ſome on this Account may object and ſay, that Worms in the Body of an Animal rather help to keep it from fatting, becauſe they feed on that Meat which ſhould nouriſh the Beaſt; wherefore I ſubmit the Caſe, whether the few Plaiſe-Worms in the Beginning of a Rot, may not create a keen Appetite, and cauſe the Sheep to feed and fat faſter than ordinary, or whether its quick fattening is not owing merely to the Plenty of Graſs it is put into, or whether the Turn of the Fleſh into a watery, dropſical Nature, does not provoke ſuch a Hunger in the Beaſt as to cauſe it to feed greedily, and fat quickly. Again, as Plaiſe-Worms never feed on any other Fleſh, than on the Liver of the Beaſt, it is thought they don't hinder the Sheep's Fatting, till they increaſe ſo as to eat up, or damage the major Part of it.

How long a rotten Sheep will keep fatting, before it ſinks in its Fleſh.-----THIS cannot be otherwiſe adjuſted than to eſtimate it as to the Plenty and Goodneſs of its Food, and as the Conſtitution of the Sheep is; if the Rot is but little, it will be the longer before it ſinks; if it receives a great Taint preſently, its Fleſh will ſink the ſooner: Or take it this Way, if a Sheep, for Example, is in good ſound Order of Body, *and receives* a Taint, or Rot, about *Midſummer*, ſuch a

Sheep may continue fatting three Months before it ſinks, when a weaker Sheep, that receives the Taint in a greater Degree, may ſink in three or four Weeks Time; a little Sheep receives the Rot ſooner, and ſinks in its Fleſh faſter than a larger Sheep, which is one Reaſon why moſt Vale Farmers refuſe to keep the ſmall *Scotch* or *Welch* Sheep, in Preference to a larger Sort, *&c.*

The Method that ſome Vale Farmers have taken to fat rotten Sheep, in Winter, with dry Meat.----WHEN Sheep are perceived to be rotten, and there is left no Hopes of their Recovery, the moſt prudent Way is to begin fatting them in Time, before the Rot is too far advanced; and to do this in Winter Time, when there is not Graſs enough for the Purpoſe, and with the greateſt Expedition, the Sheep ſhould be confined in ſome incloſed Place, and obliged to get their living out of Troughs, or from a Stack of Corn, or Hay. I am informed, that ſeveral Farmers, in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, have fatted their rotten Sheep, for about three Shillings and Sixpence a Head, by letting them feed on Horſe-beans, in their Straw, out of a Rack, that had its Staves placed at a Width accordingly; and what Beans fell to the Ground, the Hogs eat. Others gave them naked Beans in Troughs, with ſome Hay near them to feed on at their Pleaſure. But whether they are fed and fatted on Beans, Peaſe, or Bran, or Oats, or on any other dry Meat, they ſhould have Hay by them, and Water near them, to drink at their Will, leſt ſuch dry Meat do them but little Good.

The Method that a certain Vale Farmer took to fat his rotten Sheep, different from all the reſt of his Neighbours.----THIS Farmer differed from what was practiſed by all his Neighbours, by purſuing the following Method.----It happened through the Continuance of rainy Weather, that almoſt all the Sheep in *Ayleſbury* Vale rotted, inſomuch that hardly any eſcaped, according to their common Saying, that when Jack Rot comes, he generally takes nineteen Sheep out of twenty, except thoſe that are removed in Time into a hilly Country, where many have knitted, that where but juſt touch'd with the Rot; and thus, as I ſaid, have receiv'd a palliative Cure. But as very few Farmers could enjoy this Relief, they were obliged, either to get their rotten Sheep a little fleſh'd, and ſell them off, or to let them take their Chance on their rotting Ground, and die, or live, as they could. But the Farmer I am here writing of, finding his Flock had taken the Rot, fed them in *Leighton* common

Fields, and near the River Side, amongſt the rankeſt flaſhieſt Graſs he could find, even where all his Neighbours were afraid to venture theirs, for fear of expediting the Rot that had begun in them; whereas this Farmer thought himſelf moſt in the Right, in feeding his rotten Sheep on the moſt rotten Ground, with this Intent, that as he knew the Rot had juſt ſeized his Flock, and that ſuch rotten Sheep will fat for a Month or two faſter than ordinary before they ſink, he therefore fed them on this rank Graſs, on Purpoſe to fat them, in the quickeſt Manner poſſible, that he might ſell them for ſound fat Sheep, as Thouſands are in the like Condition.

The villainous Practice of ſome knaviſh Sheep-Jobbers, or rather Sheep-Biters, who employ an Art to deceive a Buyer in the Sale of rotten Sheep.-------IT is a general Notion among many chiltern Farmers, that the beſt Security againſt buying rotten Sheep is to learn what Place, or Layer of feeding Ground they come from; on this Account, many are ſo ſilly to think themſelves ſafely off, if they are told they come off ſuch a dry Common, or other dry Ground; now, as ſome of the Sheep-ſellers falſly think it no Sin to tell a Lie, at a Fair, or Market, to get off their bad Goods, many have brought rotten Sheep, from out of the wet rotten Ground of Vales, and hired Commoning, or other dry Ground, in a chiltern Country, to feed their rotten Sheep a little while here, till a Market, or Fair, or other Opportunity happens, for ſelling them off at, aſſuring a Buyer they come off ſuch a dry Common, or from off ſuch a dry Farm of Land, and by asking a pretty low Price withal, the too credulous Buyer is taken in for a very bad Bargain.----Again, when ſuch rotten Sheep are ſold at a Market or Fair, they will not warrant their Soundneſs; for if this is propoſed, their Anſwer, very probably, is, I am but a Servant, and can do no ſuch Thing.--To theſe Pieces of Villainy, another is frequently added, and that is, the ſame Morning ſuch rotten Sheep are to be driven to a Fair or Market, they'll put three or four Corns of Salt into each Eye of a Sheep, which will make them ſmart, and run with Water, for the preſent, but by the Time the Sheep get to the Fair, or Market, (if it is not very near indeed) the Running will be over, and the Salt will leave the Eyes furniſhed with fine red Streaks, the true Mark of a ſound Sheep.

The Practice of a Farmer, living not a great Way from Acton, *in* Middleſex, *to make a rotten Sheep's pale Eye look with*

with red Streaks, like the Eye of a ſound Sheep.----THIS Farmer, as arch as ſome others, having a Parcel of Sheep touch'd with the Rot, he put them into Clover, and fatted or blow'd them up in a little Time; and that nothing of their Rottenneſs might be perceived by their Eyes, he blowed a little white Vitriol, in very fine Powder, into them, which is a common Practice amongſt ſome of the *Smithfield* knowing ones, to take off the Deadneſs of a rotten Sheep's Eye, and for making them look reddiſh and lively; but it muſt be done, not long before they are brought to Market, and partly by this counterfeit Invention it was, that he ſold all theſe rotten fat Sheep for eighteen Shillings a-peice.--Others have made uſe of white Sugar-candy, in Powder, for this Purpoſe.

How by particular Signs and Tokens a Perſon may diſcover whether Sheep be rotten or ſound.--THIS is a Matter of great Importance to many who are concerned in buying Sheep at Fairs, Markets, and at other Places; for that all ſuch ought to be well apprized of it, as they tender their own Intereſt, leſt through Ignorance they are impoſed on by buying unſound Sheep for ſound ones, to their very great Loſs, if not to their Ruin. Not but that many Sheep and Lambs may be touched with the Rot, that cannot be diſcovered by any outward Sign; when this is the Caſe, there is hardly any other Way of being ſafe, in buying ſuch Sheep and Lambs, but by having Regard to the Situation and Nature of the Ground they were fed laſt on, and by conſidering the dry, or wet Seaſon of the Year that preceded their Sale. To exemplify this, I ſhall relate the following Caſe.

The Caſe of a Hertfordſhire *Gentleman, who, in* 1747, *was bit by buying Lambs touched with the Rot for ſound ones.*--THIS Gentleman is one that was always bred up in the Country, and now Owner of much plough'd and grazing Land, Part of which he now holds in his Hands, and thinking to improve the Penny goes into the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, about *Allhallontide*, 1747, and there buys about an hundred Lambs, with Intention to keep them all the Winter on his Turnips, and in his Paſture Ground, for making them become his folding Sheep the Year following; but alas! he was much deceived in his Expectation, for he had bought thoſe that were touched with the Rot, occaſioned by the great Rains that fell before and about *Midſummer* laſt; but as the Lambs took it late, and but in a ſmall Degree, and buying them in pretty early, it was a difficult Matter to find out the true Condition of

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their Bodies, by any outward Sign or Token. What muſt then a Perſon do to be ſafe in ſuch a Caſe? I anſwer, that had he acted a prudent fore-ſighted Part, he would not have bought ſuch a Number of Lambs out of a Vale Country, when he knew what a long, wet Seaſon happened in Summer-time before, or have taken a Note under the Owner's Hand to warrant their Soundneſs; but theſe being omitted, he ſuffered by loſing a conſiderable Number of theſe Lambs, that ſcoured and died rotten in his Turnip and other Grounds, before, and in the following Spring.-------Wherefore when Sheep or Lambs are arrived to ſuch a Degree of Rottenneſs, that it is to be diſcover'd by outward Signs, obſerve the following Items.

Gervaiſe Markham's *Directions how to know a ſound Sheep from an unſound one.*--If, ſays he, a Sheep is perfectly ſound, his Eye will be bright and chearful, the white Part without Spot, and the Strings red; his Gums alſo will be red, his Teeth white and even, his Skin on his Briſket will be red, and ſo will each Side betwixt his Body and his Shoulder, where Wool grows not; his Skin in general will be looſe, his Wool faſt, his Breath long, and his Feet not hot: But if he be unſound, then theſe Signs, ſays he, will have contrary Faces; his Eyes will be heavy, pale and ſpotted, his Breaſt and Gums white, his Teeth yellow and foul, his Wool, when it is pulled, will eaſily part from his Body, and when he is dead, open him and you ſhall find his Belly full of Water, his Fat yellow, his Liver putrified, and his Fleſh moiſt and wateriſh. But for ſetting this Matter in the plaineſt Light, I ſhall recite the Words of another Author that varies but little from this.

J---- B---- *his Directions to know a ſound Sheep from an unſound one.*----Let the Shepherd, ſays he, uſe both his Hands and twirl open the Sheep's Eye, and if it be ruddy, and have red Strings in the White of the Eye, then the Sheep is ſound; but if the Eye be white like tallow, and the Strings dark-coloured, then he is rotten. Let him alſo take the Sheep and open its Wool of the Side, and if his Skin here be ruddy-coloured and dry, then he is ſound; but if it be pale-coloured and watery, then he is rotten: Alſo, when the Shepherd has opened the Wool of the Side, let him take a little of it betwixt his Finger and Thumb, and pull it a little; if it ſtick faſt, he is ſound; if it come lightly off, he is rotten. When a Sheep is killed, if his Body be full of Water, he is rotten, and alſo the Fat of the Fleſh will be yellow; if the Li-

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ver be cut, there will be little Quickneſſes, and live Things like Flocks, and alſo the Liver will be full of Knots, and white Bliſters; if it be rotten, it will alſo break and crumble in Pieces; but if the Sheep be ſound, it will hold firm together. To which I add as follows:

How the Fleſh of a rotten Sheep appears after it is kill'd, and how to know it, and other Sorts, when offered to Sale in a Market: By this Author.-----THE Fleſh of a rotten Sheep may be eaſily known to be ſuch, when the Carcaſs is dreſſed and cold, for then it will feel limp and flabby, and be of a paliſh Colour; and what is very particular, the Fat that is on the upper Part of a Sheep's Heart, which naturally is of a hard Nature in all ſound Sheep, in a rotten Sheep will be of a Jelly, or be of a watery puffed-up Fat; when the Fleſh of a ſound Sheep will feel firm, and be of a reddiſh Colour. Again, when the Fleſh of a rotten Sheep is boiled, or otherwiſe dreſſed, the ſweet Taſte of Mutton is loſt, becauſe the wateriſh, inſipid, diſagreeable Taſte is predominant. So if Mutton be young and ſound, the Fleſh will pinch up tenderly, and immediately fall down again; but if old and ſound, it will wrinkle, and continue ſo; if young and ſound, the Fat will eaſily part, but old and ſound will ſtick faſter, as it is ſkinny and fibrous. Ram ſound Mutton is likewiſe known by the Cloſeneſs of its Grain, and by the Brick Redneſs and Toughneſs of the Fleſh. Sound Ewe Mutton is known by being more looſe and pale than the Fleſh of ſound Wether; yet the Colour and Firmneſs of the Fleſh very much depend upon the different Sorts of Feeding. If the Fleſh is paliſh, the Fat of a faint white, inclining to yellow, it is a certain Sign of a Rot; but of this more as follows:

Of the Unwholeſomeneſs of rotten Mutton, and of ſeveral Impoſitions on the Account of it, &c.---IN long wet Summer-Seaſons, a Rot in Sheep in Courſe enſues, for by frequent Rains a long, dirty, flaſhy Graſs is bred, as I have, I think, ſufficiently made appear, and then a Dropſy commences, which happens when the Belly of the Beaſt is ſwelled with Water, for then the glutinous and nouriſhing Part of the Fleſh is waſhed away, and becomes poor and lean; and the more, the longer they are kept feeding on ſuch moiſt Food, which cauſes all Fleſh, that is thus affected by ſuch Food, to become wateriſh, flabby and unwholeſome; witneſs, what a *London* Butcher ingenuouſly confeſs'd to me; ſays he, When I rub the Carcaſs of a rotten Sheep with Fat, as our Cuſtom is with all we kill, whether ſound or rotten, it will not take

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it; becauſe of its watery Nature; when the Fleſh of a ſound Sheep will.----I was informed, that ſeveral Cows rotted one Year near *Oxford*, and that the Liver of one of them was ſo ſwell'd with Water that it weighed ſeventy Pounds and more, though the Fleſh was tolerable fat, but very flabby, and that ſeveral Perſons who eat of the ſame found themſelves diſordered; and no Wonder, ſince, as the whole Maſs of Blood is corrupted, the Fleſh muſt ſhare in the ſame Quality. Yet ſo ignorant are many of the *Londoners*, who undoubtedly are the moſt fore-ſighted, quickeſt Perſons in *England*, in the Management of their Trades or Profeſſions, that when their Judgment is to ſtand a Teſt with Dealing in Country Affairs, it is a Chance, if they are not in ſome Degree impoſed on. I hope I have done no little Service both to the *Londoner* and Countryman, in acquainting them with many Impoſitions in the Brewing Buſineſs, and how to prevent them, and here would do the ſame in this Branch of Eating; therefore let them obſerve what I have before written, and that Mutton, if much tainted by the Rot, will not receive and lodge the Fat, without much Artifice, like ſound Mutton, but will have ſo looſe a Fleſh, that it will with little Force part from its Bones, even while it is raw; becauſe the Skin, or Film, that ſhould take hold of the porous Parts of the Bones, and ſhould unite firmly with them, is itſelf looſened by Force of this watery Diſeaſe; which leads me to record the Words of a *London* Butcher, as he expreſſed them to me, on my telling him that this Year was like to be a rotten one among Sheep; ſays he, That will do me no Hurt, I had as lieve it be a rotten Year with them as not: Now what Conſtruction this deſerves, I leave to my Reader: For my Part, I can put no other upon it, than to ſuppoſe, that he may buy rotten Sheep cheaper than ordinary, and yet ſell his Mutton at a good Price, to thoſe Cuſtomers who have not Judgment enough to ſee through the Impoſition; for undoubtedly there be thoſe Butchers that make the moſt of ignorant Buyers; for many of theſe fleſhly Connoiſſeurs, by Length of Time and Experience, are ſo verſed in their Trade, that on Sight they can nearly tell their Chap; then with their uſual Harangue, ſtrive to perſuade an unſkilful Perſon, they aſk the loweſt Price for the beſt Meat that ever was butchered, when perhaps at the ſame Time it is rotten Mutton, and quite otherwiſe; according to the Words of a Poet, who makes ſuch a Butcher ſpeak thus:

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My Meat is freſh and good, plump, fat and fair.--then adds;
But when you try't, you'll find it nauſeous Ware;
Though they that buy't may into Sickneſs fall,
They matter not: Money's their All in all.

I was well acquainted with a generous Gentleman, Owner of an Eſtate in the Country, but for the moſt Part reſided in *London*, who was ſo ſuſpicious of having bad Mutton ſold him, that to prevent it he commonly dealt with one reputable *London* Butcher, fam'd for ſelling true, natural, graſs-fed, young Wether Mutton, and for which Aſſurance he did not grudge to give a Half-penny a Pound more, than for that he could not depend on; and it was with this good Friend of mine that I have eaten many hearty Meals of ſuch excellent Meat; a Meat that for its Tenderneſs and Sweetneſs I am apt to believe would be thought, by ſome Perſons, equal in Goodneſs to Veniſon; and which many others may likewiſe have, that live in the Country, if they will obſerve thoſe Items I have in my *Modern Huſbandman*, and in my *Supplement* to Mr. *Trowell's* Book, given, and thereby ſhewn, how for a little Expence Perſons, that are Owners of Land, proper for the Purpoſe, may be Maſters of that moſt excellent, natural, ſweet Graſs, the Lady-finger Sort, which by its pleaſant ſalubrious Qualities, furniſhes all Manner of horned Beaſts with the moſt delicate of Fleſh, that feed on it. But leſt thoſe my Books may not come into the Hands of ſuch Perſons, for better informing them of this important Matter, I ſhall by and by give a Sketch of the ſame.

Artifices made uſe of, by ſome ill principled, covetous Butchers, for cauſing the Fleſh of rotten Sheep to appear like ſound Fleſh, and of the Nature of ſuch rotten Mutton.-----WHEN the Caſe is that a Sheep dies ſo dropſical (as moſt rotten Sheep do) that its Fleſh will not take the Rub of Fat over it, as the Fleſh of a ſound Sheep will, ſome Butchers have Recourſe to Artifice, by melting Mutton-Suet in hot Water, in order to ſoften it, and make it ſoluble, and ſo looſe, that the watery Fleſh will readily receive its being rubb'd over it, for making it appear to the Eye of a Buyer like ſound Mutton; for you muſt know, that the Carcaſs of a Sheep, whether the Fleſh of it be ſound, or unſound, will not admit of any other Fat but the Fat of Mutton to be lodged on it, by rubbing it over with it, for making it have a whitiſh Caſt, and ſell the better, becauſe the Fat of Mutton is the whiteſt

and hardeſt of Fat, and therefore agrees with this Intention beyond all other Fat, applied either in a ſoft or hard Conſiſtence, on the Carcaſs of a Sheep; thus a Buyer may be deceived, if he takes it for a certain Rule, that a Sheep muſt die ſound, becauſe the Fleſh received and lodged a Rub of white Fat over its Carcaſs. But this is not all, there is likewiſe a Way that, I am informed, is practiſed by ſome Butchers, to give the watery, white Fleſh of a rotten Sheep an artificial reddiſh Caſt, in Imitation of the Colour of a ſound Sheep's Fleſh; to do this, it's ſaid, they rub the Outſide of a Joint of rotten Mutton with ſome Blood, or bloody Water. Rotten Mutton alſo deceives the Buyer, in that when the Fleſh is boiled, whether it be young or old, the little Gravy, if there be any in it, is ſoon loſt in the hot Water, and the Fleſh being of a watery Nature, becomes not only inſipid but unwholeſome. However, as bad as it is, when, as we ſay in the Country, a rotten Year happens, it gives ſeveral of our poor Butchers, that at other Times are forced to do ſomething elſe for a Living, an Opportunity to buy and kill many of theſe rotten Sheep, that they hawk about, and ſell the Fleſh at ſo low a Price, that many poor Families come by a Bellyful of Meat, who have been Strangers to it a long Time before: And indeed they had need have ſuch Meat at a very low Price, for not only the Goodneſs, or Gravy Part will be quickly boiled out, but the flabby Fat of a rotten Sheep will likewiſe be loſt in the Pot Liquor, becauſe its aqueous Nature cannot reſiſt the Ebullition of the Water, whether the Fat be of an old or a young rotten Sheep.

A Confutation of a Butcher's Aſſertion, when he declares, that if a rotten Sheep is killed before it pines, or ſinks in its Fleſh, the Fleſh is as good as that of the ſoundeſt Sheep.---- To anſwer this, I do not pretend to account for it in that Mechanical Way that a more learned Pen than mine might do; yet I think I can ſay enough to this Matter, to make it plainly appear, it is not as the Butcher would have People believe it, *viz.* That a rotten Sheep's Fleſh is as good as that of a ſound Sheep, provided ſuch rotten Sheep are killed before they ſink in their Fleſh. As I ſaid before, it is impoſſible for a Rot to be in a Sheep, before a Dropſy has begun in a leſſer, or greater, Degree; nor can a Dropſy produce a Rot, unleſs the corrupted Blood of the Beaſt has firſt damaged its Liver, and its Fleſh; how then can ſuch Fleſh be as good as the Fleſh of that Sheep whoſe Body is entirely free from ſuch Dropſy, and from ſuch Rot? If this is not true, whence

whence comes it, that where nine Sheep are killed that had rotten Livers, and a tenth Sheep killed that had a ſound Liver, the Butcher hangs up only the Head and Purtenance, in which is contained the Liver of a ſound Sheep, for ſerving to warrant a Belief that all the reſt were in the ſame healthful Condition, though their Livers are not in View?

The particular Caſe of a Yeoman living near the Village of Barly, *in* Hertfordſhire, *ſhewing how his Sheep received and took the Rot, and the Method he took to cure it.*----THIS Yeoman keeps his own large Farm in his own Hands, ſituated in the remoteſt Eaſtern Part of *Hertfordſhire*, where are many flat, wet Pieces of Land, that in the Year 1735 rotted great Numbers of Sheep, about his Neighbourhood, becauſe their Owners were ignorant how to prevent the Misfortune: But this was not the Caſe of the Farmer I am writing of, for he ſaved his Flock by an eaſy and cheap Method, as I ſhall preſently declare; but previous to it, I have to ſay, that when the Graſs is very ſhort on ſuch wet, flat Ground, the ſooner Sheep will rot in wet Weather, and how much ſoever this may ſeem a Paradox to ſome, it is nevertheleſs true; the Reaſon is, becauſe that when they feed on ſuch wet, rotten Earth, and the Graſs is ſhort, the Sheep are obliged to bite cloſer to the Ground than ordinary to get at it, and thus doing, they take up the Scum and Filth that lies at the Bottom of the Graſs, as well as Worm-Caſts, and ſuch other Sort of Naſtineſs, which is well known to contribute very much to the Rotting of Sheep. Now it happened, that this Yeoman's Flock had taken a begun Rot, whereof two of them were jogg'd under their Jaws, yet he recovered them by giving them Oat-ſtraw, in Time, to feed on, for that the Knots of the Straw help'd ſo much to dry up the Water of their Bellies, that they knitted and recovered.

A Method practiſed by a certain Shepherd in the Vale of Ayleſbury, *by which he recovered and fatted many rotten Sheep.* --THIS knowing Shepherd I am well acquainted with, and with his Practice of recovering and fatting Sheep that have taken the Rot, and were not too far gone in it. Such Sheep, though reduced to great Poverty in their Fleſh, he kept in a Yard, and fed them under Cover, as Hogs when they are fatting commonly are; here theſe infected Sheep had Troughs before them, in which the Shepherd put kiln-dried ſplit Peaſe, that he mixed with ſome Pollard, and ſometimes with Bran, and always had a Rack of fine Hay by them, with a Trough of Water. The Meat was given them at ſeveral

Times to prevent glutting them, and Water freſh accordingly; which, with littering them with Straw now and then, ſo well agreed with theſe Sheep that they ſoon recovered, by thus drying up the watery Quality of their Fleſh and Entrails, and fatted well, for ſelling to the Butcher, at about two Months End. Some, inſtead of Peaſe, will kiln-dry Horſe-beans, and give them ſplit with Pollard or Bran. Others will give the Sheep whole Horſe-beans, or whole Peaſe, with Bran, for feeding and fatting them in the like Manner. But in Caſe ſuch rotten Sheep are thus fed and confined under Cover only every Night, and turned out to graze every Morning, there is no Occaſion to give them Water in a Trough, for that the Graſs and Weeds they pick up abroad will be ſufficient to moiſten their Bodies.

An Obſervation made by a Vale Farmer how Sheep are rotted by feeding on the Bean-Weed, and by the Slime and Dirt of Floods.---THIS Farmer I am well acquainted with, as he lived but three Miles from me, in *Alyeſbury* Vale, where he rented a Farm, that was not big enough to maintain a Shepherd to look after his Flock of Sheep, and being forced to do it himſelf, he obſerved that his Sheep were ſo much in love with a certain Weed called Bean-weed, that when they had an Opportunity they would run greedily in queſt of it. It grows in the moory Ground of Vales, comes up about a Finger's Length, in the Spring Time of the Year, like a Bean, and moſt of all in wet Weather; the Leaf of this Bean-weed is of ſo ſammy a Nature, that it feels, on being ſqueezed, as if it was greaſed, and being thick withal, it contains much Sap in it, and therefore it preſently breeds the Rot in the Bodies of the Sheep. Again, it is an Obſervation, made by this Farmer, that Sheep do not take the Rot, even when the Land is flooded, but that they take the Cauſe of it after the Waters are abated; for as the Sheep by this Means have been kept off the Graſs, for ſome Time, when they can come at it, they meet with a Slime and Dirt on it, which in eating it, they are obliged to take into their Bellies, and thus it brings them under the Rot: For nothing rots a Sheep, or any other Creature, more than ſuch Slime and Dirt.

Sheep rotted by eating Hail-ſtones.---OF this I have hinted before, but now come to a further Explanation of it; it is a Summer, and not a Winter Shower of Hail that rots Sheep, and this more or leſs, as the Stones of it are bigger, or leſſer. And why theſe Hail-ſtones are thought by ſome of the moſt knowing Shepherds to rot Sheep, rather ſooner than any

Thing elſe, is, becauſe Sheep in Summer being hotter by their Load of Wool than any other Creature, they run after the cool Food of Hail, and greedily eat its Stones, as Boys do Sugar-Plumbs; which Hail-ſtones, being of a moſt cold and icy Nature, chills the hot Blood of Sheep on a ſudden, and brings it into a ſurfeiting Condition: For a Proof of this, it has been ſeveral Times obſerved, that in three or four Days Time, after Sheep have thus eaten Hail-ſtones, they have had their Skins ſpotted reddiſh, ſomewhat like Leopards Skins; and when this is their Caſe, ſuch Sheep ſeldom or never turn to Profit afterwards, becauſe this chilly Surfeit breeds and brings on a lingring Decay of the Sheep's Body, and generally cauſes it to die by the Rot, or otherwiſe, in two or three Months Time.

The Way practiſed by ſome Shepherds, to prevent a Hail-Shower damaging Sheep.-- WHEN a Hail Storm, or Shower, happens, a knowing Shepherd, if he has an Opportunity, will directly drive his Flock from off the Ground they are on when the Hail falls, into a Yard, or into a Fold, to prevent his Sheep eating the Stones of it.

Rotten Sheep bought by a poor Man, for a Shilling a-piece, and how one of them recovered.-----THIS poor Man having a little Money, and being deſirous to improve it, went to *Leighton* Market, in a rotten Seaſon, to lay it out on rotten Sheep, which he thought to buy very cheap, in Hopes to recover them, as he lived on *Ivinghoe* dry Common; but alas he was deceived in his Hopes, for almoſt all of them died, that he gave one Shilling a-piece for. Now it happened that another poor Man, his Neighbour, relying on a certain Remedy that he was Maſter of, ventured to buy in a black, two-tooth'd, Wether Sheep, being one of this Number of rotten Sheep, at the Price of two Shillings; but refuſing to truſt only to the Feed of Graſs on a dry Common, he prepared his Remedy of Shepherd's-Purſe, chopt very ſmall, and boiled it with ſome Bole Armoniack, and Plantane Roots, in Milk, which when ſtrained he gave Half a Pint of it at a Time to the Sheep, and by repeating it, it ſo recovered the Beaſt, that he ſold it about *Michaelmas* following for ten Shillings, after having had it about Half a Year in his Poſſeſſion; and what is very remarkable, the Man that bought this Sheep, ſold it preſently to a Gentleman, who kept much Land in his own Hands, and he, after keeping it as a Store folding Sheep ſeveral Years, at laſt fatted it.

An

An Account given by a Sheep Dealer of the Rot amongſt Sheep in 1745.----THIS Perſon carried his Character of this Rot further than it really was, by ſaying to me, that the Rot of Sheep, (meaning the Diſcovery of it) broke out in *Ayleſbury* Vale, about the Middle of *October*, 1745, in ſuch a Pickle that a greater Rot was hardly ever known; and added, that the Sheep died very hard of this Rot, for that they ſtood ſound till this Time in Appearance. But this was not a general Rot, though great Numbers died of it in ſome Vale and wet Countries, particularly in *Suſſex*, where this Malady ſwept off Thouſands of Sheep, and alſo cauſed many to ſell their Sheep very cheap, for fear they ſhould have died by the Rot, as the following Caſe makes appear.

The Miſtake of a great Sheep-Jobber, in ſelling a conſiderable Number of ſound Sheep, at a very low Price, out of a Suſpicion of their being rotten, when they were not.----THIS Sheep-Jobber is an elderly Man, living on the Edge of *Ayleſbury* Vale, and carried on a great Dealing in Sheep for many Years, and having a large Number by him, he ſold four hundred of them off about *Candlemas*, 1745-6, for four Shillings a-peice, that were really worth ten; and this he did for fear they ſhould all die rotten, becauſe many did elſewhere; but they proved ſound Sheep, as well as the reſt did, that he left at Home unſold. A Piece of very ill Conduct indeed, for had he killed two, or three, or more of them, he might have eaſily perceived what Condition the reſt of the Flock were in.

Why Sheep rot moſt at Midſummer.--BECAUSE they were kept ſhort of Meat in the Spring-time before, ſo that when a dripping Seaſon happens, in *April* or *May*, the Sheep feed ſo faſt on the flaſhy new Graſs that breeds the Rot in them, and cauſes many to die about *Midſummer* and afterwards; or if it does not turn to the Rot, it does to the Red-water, that is equally fatal; and therefore it is my Practice, by Way of Security, to give every one of my Sheep Half a Pint of a certain Liquor, mentioned in my laſt and third Book, in the Month of *April* every Year.

CHAP. III.

Of the pernicious RED-WATER *Diſeaſe, and of its fatal Effects on* SHEEP *and* LAMBS; *with various Accounts of its Prevention and Cure.*

An Eſſay, or Attempt, to prove the Cauſe of the deſtructive Red-water, in Sheep and Lambs.

THE Red-water is an internal Diſeaſe that is hardly to be accounted for. Aſk the Shepherds, what breeds it? moſt of them will anſwer, it is the Flaſhineſs of the Graſs; or, that the Sheep has catch'd cold: Others, that they don't know; and the ſame among the Sheep-Jobbers, they generally plead they don't know, but confeſs it is a deadly Diſeaſe that kills Rams, Ewes, Wethers, and Lambs, in a little Time: For that theſe are all ſubject to it, even Ewes while their Lambs ſuck on them, and Lambs while they ſuck on Ewes. Nor are the dry, hilly, Countries leſs ſubject to cauſe the Red-water in theſe Animals, than Vales, but rather more; which Obſervation of mine may perhaps ſeem a Paradox to ſome Perſons; however, I hope to ſet this difficult Point in a clearer Light than ever it was done yet, by any Author whatſoever.-----In Vales few Farmers find it their Intereſt to ſow their rich, marly, ridge Lands, with Turnip or Rape-ſeed; and as their Sheep are not here fed with Turnips nor Rapes, they are not liable to ſuffer by theſe watery, ſucculent Plants, but only by flaſhy Graſs, and ſome other Incidents; whereas in Chiltern Countries, and in ſome ſandy, Vale Countries, Turnips are their chief Winter Food, and in ſome Parts Rapes, therefore Sheep and Lambs are more ſubject to the Breed of the Red-water in the latter, than in the former, as I ſhall further obſerve in the Sequel of this my Eſſay; and in order to it, I ſhall firſt recite what ſeveral ancient Authors have written on this Diſeaſe, to ſhew how extenſively they have carried on their tranſcribing one inſipid Receipt, and wrong Notions of the Thing, from one to another, firſt broached, if I am not miſtaken, by *Gervaiſe Markham*, in the Year 1631, and handed down with little Alteration by no leſs than four or five ſeveral Authors to the Year 1737.---

Says

Says *Markham*,-----The Red-water is a poiſonous Diſeaſe in Sheep, offending the Heart, and is indeed as the Peſtilence among other Cattle; therefore, ſays he, when you find any of your Sheep infected therewith, you ſhall firſt let them blood in the Foot, between the Claws, and alſo under the Tail, and then lay to the ſore Places Rue and Wormwood, beaten with Bay-ſalt, and it helpeth.----- The next Author ſays the ſame.-----A third ſays, when you find this, look for the ſpinning Vein in the Foot and bleed it; then take a Poultice of Rue, Bay-ſalt, Feverfew and Butter, and lay it on hot.----A fourth ſays, that Red-water is accounted one of the moſt dangerous Diſtempers attending the Flock, bringing whatever Sheep it attacks to Death in a ſhort Time, unleſs it is diſcovered at the firſt Coming, when rotten Sheep may live a Month, two, or more. Now to cure this, ſays he, the Sheep ſhould be blooded in the Foot, and under the Tail; then apply to the ſore Places Rue and Wormwood bruiſed and mixed with Bay-ſalt, and give them by Way of their daily Food, good fine Hay in the Mornings and Evenings, with other Meat now and then ſprinkled with a little Salt.----A fifth Receipt ſays, that the Red-water is cauſed by a certain Bladder with Water under the Tip of the Heart, which ſcalds and conſumes the Heart, and at length will kill the Sheep; the beſt Help, ſays he, is for ſome Nights to chaſe them with a Dog, which will preſerve them from the Miſchief of this Diſtemper.----To make my Remarks on theſe Receipts, I have to ſay, that moſt of theſe Authors are very right in their ſaying, that the Red-water is a poiſonous Diſeaſe in offending the Heart; or, as another ſays, it is one of the moſt dangerous Diſtempers attending a Flock, and which kills Sheep in a little Time. But that this Diſtemper is peſtilential among a Flock, I never heard it conſented to, nor can I apprehend how a Sheep troubled with the Red-water, or Rot, can be any ways contagious to others. If this was ſuſpected by Farmers, they would ſoon ſeparate the Diſtempered from the Sound; but this I never did, nor knew it done by others; for it is a Red-water that kills them, and how the Death of one Sheep ſhould cauſe this Water to breed in another, I cannot underſtand, no more than why a Sheep ſhould be blooded in the Foot for the Red-water, before any other Part. But perhaps it may be alledged, that Bleeding in the Foot will bring down the Water out of the Belly beſt; now, if this was poſſible to be done, I am ſure it is more dangerous to bleed here than under the Tail or Eye, for if Gravel

vel ſhould get into the Wound, before it is healed, it may give the Sheep a long Lameneſs, after the Poultice is off; however, if I can find out an eaſier, cheaper, and better Remedy for this Malady, I think I ſhall be more in the Right. In the mean Time I have further to obſerve, purſuant to my Attempt, that the Red-water is thought to be bred ſeveral Ways: Firſt, It is bred in Vales, where there are no Turnips, nor Rapes, by Sheep and Lambs feeding in wet moory Places, on flaſhy Graſs, and biting it too near the Earth; and in the Spring Seaſon by the Sheep cropping the Buds of Sallows, Hazels, *&c.* and by the Fall of frequent Showers. Secondly, It is bred in chiltern Countries, where Sheep and Lambs feed on Turnips, or Rapes, which being Plants that lodge and carry in them more watery Sap, or Juice, than any other field Vegetables, the Sheep, by long feeding on them, take in and retain ſo much of it, as breeds a white Water firſt, and then a red Water. Thirdly, The Red-water is bred or increaſed in Sheep at the Spring-Time, by feeding on the Buds and Shoots of the forward growing Sallow, Hazel, and other Hedge and Spiny Wood; but moſt of all, by their cropping the large Buds of the Sallow, which being one of the amphibious Sorts of Plants, or Trees, its Buds are of a very moiſt, ſpungy Nature, and therefore contribute to the Breed of the Red-water. Fourthly, Many Sheep, both in Vale and Chiltern Countries, are kept poor on what Graſs they can come at in Winter-Time, and thereby obliged to bite ſo cloſe to the Earth, as to take in Dirt with what they eat; after which, when the warm Spring Weather puts up Graſs, that has a very crude, raw, unwholeſome Juice in it, for want of being cured by a hotter Sun, the poor Creatures, greedy of this firſt Plenty of green Food, feed ſo heartily on it as breeds in their Bodies much Water. Fifthly, If Sheep have been thus kept in a poor ſtarving Condition, all Winter, as many every Year are, in ſome Places or other, they are thereby leſs able to reſiſt the Chill of Rains, which may corrupt their Blood, by entering through their Skin or Pelt, and thus much contribute to the Breeding of the Red-water. And for confirming the Truth of moſt of what I have here wrote on the Red-water, the remarkable following Account given me by a Weſt-Country Sheep-Dealer ſeems to warrant it, by his telling me, that if Sheep are ſummer'd, that is to ſay, if they feed in the Summer-time on a certain wet Common, which is but a little one, for it contains leſs than two hundred Acres, they are ſure to

be killed by the Red-water, for that the Common is ſituated low, and now and then flooded by an adjacent River, which gives it a muddy Bottom, and a flaſhy, unwholeſome Graſs, that is the Cauſe of this Malady; ſo that after feeding their Lambs, that they buy in at *Michaelmas*, on Turnips and on this Common, they ſell them all off about the 25th of *January*, and graze their Cows all the Summer on this moſt fertile Land, which would (if it was ſafe Feeding) maintain above Half a Thouſand Sheep during the warm Seaſon: And no Wonder it is, that this is the Caſe, ſince ſuch rank, muddy Graſs muſt contain a great Deal of rank, unhealthy Dirt and Juice, which conſequently breeds an impure, watery Blood, that increaſes as the Creature continues feeding on it, till it overflows the Veins and Arteries of the Beaſt, ſettles in its Belly, and becomes a Red-water. So on *Rouſeham* low, wet Common, that lies not a great Way off *Stanmore*, in *Middleſex*, are many of their Lambs, eſpecially in wet Seaſons, taken ill, and die of the Red-water in *May* and *June*.

The Signs that uſually accompany a Sheep when it has the Red-water.----THE firſt fatal Sign of a Sheep's dying by the Red-water, is, that for three or four Days before it dies of the Red-water, it will look ſleepy, heavy-headed, and droop, and quickly fall a ſhivering, and then become hot in a burning Fever, a little before its Death; previous to which, their Skins will appear reddiſh. Some Perſons ſay, that feeding on dry, privy Ground, the Graſs that grows on it, being of a hot Nature, breeds the Red-water, or a hot ſuperfluous bloody Humour, which will engender and ſpread into the Veins of the Sheep, and thus overcome the good Blood; becauſe ſuch Grounds do not yield a cooling Moiſture to abate the exceſſive Heat of the bloody Inflammation. Others ſay, it is the Nature of ſome Grounds or Heaths to cauſe it; but of this more, as follows hereafter.

The Caſe of Mr. -----, *a Chiltern Yeoman, who in moſt Years loſes few or more Sheep or Lambs by the Red-water.* ----THIS Yeoman holds his own Eſtate, of about one Hundred a Year, in his own Hands, and generally keeps a pretty large Flock of Sheep to fold and dreſs his Land, but was often fretted to find he yearly loſt ſome Sheep and Lambs by the Red-water Diſeaſe. Now before this Yeoman's Houſe lies a Common well furniſhed with Furze and Fern, where his Sheep graze the greateſt Part of the Year; this gave our Yeoman a ſtrong Suſpicion, that their cropping the young

young Furze might occaſion the Breeding of this Red-water; and therefore he put them into his incloſed Field to keep them from it: But this did not anſwer his Expectation, for here they died of the Red-water as much as before, even ſeven or eight Lambs in a Year, beſides Sheep; and this before they had quite done ſucking their Ewes: Nor could he ever account to himſelf how this Malady was bred in them, though he lived till he was near eighty Years of Age, and was eſteemed as good a Huſbandman as any in our Parts. But, in my Opinion, I think he was wide of the true Cauſe, in thinking that Furze, and its yellow Bloſſoms, might occaſion the Breed of the Red-water; becauſe, if I am not miſtaken, Furze is of a dry, warm, contrary Nature to this Diſtemper; for ſome Warreners I know, lay Furze in their Warrens for their Coneys to feed on, and prevent their rotting: Which leads me to think on the Cauſe of this Yeoman's Lambs and Sheep dying by the Red-water. You muſt know, that this Yeoman's Sheep, beſides ſome of them that died by the Red-water, ſeveral of them were every Year troubled with the Staggers; a Malady I ſhall write on when I come to a proper Place in my Book. You muſt know alſo, that this Yeoman, though a rich Man, kept his Sheep very poor, by feeding them only with Straw, and what Graſs they could pick up on this Common; ſo that in the Spring, they were all of them in a very lean Condition: And being thus kept poor a long Time, when the firſt Shoot of Graſs came up, theſe half-ſtarv'd Sheep would feed ſo greedily on it, as thereby to amaſs and lodge much Sap, or raw Juice, in their Bodies, which cauſed a ſudden Increaſe and Overflowing of bad Blood, that, conſequently, became corrupted into a Red-water, *&c.* And, as a further Proof that this Yeoman kept his Sheep thus poor in Winter, his Store Lambs would weigh very near, if not quite, as much the firſt Year, as they did the ſecond Year when they were Sheep; becauſe, while they were Lambs, they had their Bellyful of Milk and Graſs, good Part of the Summer, and thrived in their Fleſh accordingly. Nor did he conſider, that Part of his Common was of a clayey Nature, and retain'd Waters ſo long on its Surface, as to force on the Growth of a flaſhy Graſs, eſpecially that which grew between his Furze and Fern; and which, in the Spring-Time, gave his Sheep an Opportunity to feed on it to their Damage.

How to know whether a Sheep has the Red-water in the firſt Stage of it.---I AM here going to offer a Method for trying to find out whether a Sheep has the White or the Red Water in its Belly or not: A Matter of ſuch Importance, as deſerves the Regard and Practice of all Country Gentlemen, Graziers, Farmers, Sheep-Dealers, Shepherds, and all others concerned in breeding, and buying and ſelling of Sheep; previous to which, I ſhall, in the firſt Place, offer a Hint or two, how many Sheep that feed in a Chiltern Country come to have the Red-water bred in them, As moſt of our Chiltern or Hill-Country Sheep eat, as their common Subſiſtence, in Winter-Time, much Turnip-Food, even till the Beginning of *May*, it fills their Bellies with a Water againſt the Spring; and then, if a wet Seaſon directly ſucceeds, ſuch Water is the more increaſed, and by remaining long in the Body of the Beaſt, it corrupts and breeds a Fever, which ſo heats the Water, as to cauſe it to ſcald the Blood and Fleſh of the Sheep; and thus the Water and the Blood becomes mix'd, ſo as to bring it into one Conſiſtence, even to that of a bloody or red Water: This being premiſed, I have further to ſay, that when a Shepherd ſuſpects a Sheep to have much Water in its Belly, he muſt take up both the Hind Legs of a Sheep in his Left Hand, and hold them ſo high, as to make the Creature bear altogether on its Fore Legs; this being done, he with his Right Hand muſt gripe, preſs, and feel the Sheep's Belly, and if he find Water quaſhes, or rumbles in it, more than ordinary, he may conclude, there is a white or red Water in it; and if he forces the Belly of the Sheep a little more than ordinary, ſuch Water will diſcharge little or more out of its Mouth, if there be a large Quantity of it in the Sheep's Belly: When this is diſcovered, it is then high Time to have Recourſe to Medicine. Again, when a Sheep has the White-water, it will frequently raiſe its fore Part againſt a Bank or other Place, I ſuppoſe to make the Water fall back from its Stomach or Heart.

How to know whether a Sheep has the Red-water or not, in its laſt Stage.---THE Knowledge of this may be eaſily and plainly come by, for when the Red-water is in ſuch a Quantity as to get the Aſcendant of the Sheep's Body, it is frequently ſeen to make the Sheep drivel and diſcharge a Water from its Mouth, cauſed by the exceſſive Quantity and Overflowing of the Red-water in the Belly of the Sheep; *which* Water has been catch'd in a white Cup; and though

it

it ſeems whitiſh as it falls from the Sheep's Mouth, yet if it ſtands a little while in the Cup, it will have a reddiſh Caſt in it. This is an Obſervation that has not only eſcaped the Knowledge of all Authors, but alſo Thouſands of thoſe whoſe Intereſt it is to know it; but their Ignorance of it is the Reaſon why they regard it not; and by not regarding it, the Sheep goes without a timely Remedy and dies: For, if the Cauſe of a Diſeaſe is not known, I don't know how a proper Remedy ſhould be applied. Again, if a Sheep has the Red-water in any rank Degree, its Eyes will look reddiſh.

A Lamb died of the Red-water while it fed in a Field of green Wheat.---A FARMER, near me, had a Lamb died, while it was fatting in his Field of green Wheat, of the Red-water, worth, it was thought, nine Shillings, before it died, which made our Farmer ſay, it was Change of Paſture that occaſioned it; and in ſo ſaying, he was certainly right: But the Death of this Lamb carried another Reaſon with it, that our Farmer overlook'd, which is, that as this Lamb was put into a full Bite of green Wheat, from a ſhort Bite of what it could pick up in the Fallow Ground, that afforded it a very poor Living before *March*; and as this Lamb was removed out of ſuch a ſcanty Living at once, into a moſt plentiful one, it fed and gorged itſelf ſo, as to have always a Bellyful of this frim green Wheat, which it fatted on very faſt: Now, as the Lamb's Fleſh increaſed, ſo did the Breed of a Water increaſe, by the extraordinary Plenty of the Juice and Sap that this green Wheat yielded; inſomuch that this Lamb died on the 11th Day of *March*, purely by the Red-water.

How many Sheep died of the Red-water in 1745.---THIS Summer being a very wet one, the Graſs proved rank, and ſo flaſhy as to breed the Red-water in many Sheep: But thoſe Sheep were moſtly affected by it, that had not Hay enough given them in the Winter and Spring Seaſon before. Some Farmers that gave no Hay to their Sheep in the Winter, when the Spring Weather came on hard, began to give Hay then; but as this was not done in due Time, theſe Sheep were the firſt and moſt expoſed to the Damage of Red-water, becauſe after a long Winter, the Sheep feeding greedily on the firſt Shoot of Graſs, it did the Feat. So, after a dry Seaſon, when great Rains fall in Summer, and ſend up much Graſs on a ſudden, the Sheep eat faſt and much, and thereby acquire the Breed of the Red-water.

And

And it is the declared Opinion of others, beſides myſelf, that if the Blood does not turn to the Red-water, it turns to a Rot. But this is not all, for there are other Cauſes which bring Sheep into the Red-water; as Fogs, Miſts, Dews, Cobwebs, and the white, ſmall, naked Snails or Slugs, that lie in and about the Graſs in Summer-time; and being all of them of a moiſt unwholſome Nature, they very much tend to breed and bring on this Diſeaſe. It alſo concerns thoſe Farmers who occupy low, wet Grounds, that if they bring Sheep off a dry Bite of Graſs, and put them into ſuch wet Grounds, where, in rainy Seaſons, the Graſs is long and flaſhy, they have Reaſon to ſuſpect their Sheep taking the Rot or Red-water; for it is thought, that if ſuch moiſt feeding does not turn to one, it will to the other. So likewiſe ſhould they be as careful that their Sheep be not worried too much by a Dog; for this may breed a Surfeit, and that the Red-water.

A Farmer loſt a Flock of Wether Sheep, in a chiltern dry Country, by the Red-Water.---THIS Farmer I am acquainted with, who keeps two Flocks of Sheep; one is a Wether Flock, and the other a Ewe Flock; and having two Commons belonging to his great Farm, he fed theſe two Flocks on them ſeparately. His dry Wether Sheep he, all the Summer long, fed on one of the Commons, without baiting them on Clover or other Graſs, and folded them; and being careleſs of regarding the Time of turning them out of the Fold, they went too early and too ſoon in a Morning on the Common, before the Fogs, Dews, and Cobwebs were diſperſed by the Sun; and in ſhort, it is ſaid they almoſt all died of the Red-water: But it went better with his Couples, or Ewes and their Lambs, though he folded them likewiſe every Day; for theſe he baited in the Afternoon in good Graſs, and took more Care of them than he did of his dry Sheep: Not but that the Red-water will breed in a well-fed Sheep, as well as in a lean poor Sheep; in a Sheep that feeds in Vale Ground, as well as thoſe that feed in Chiltern Grounds. But to be more ſecure from this Malady, ſome will turn them on a Common, or grazing Ground, but let them out of the Fold in the Morning into their Fallow Fields, where the Cobwebs are not much, and where the Shoot of Graſs and Weeds are ſweet and young; here, after they have been two Hours, they are drove on a Common, and at Night baited in good Living:

This

This is the Way to preſerve a folding Flock from the Red-water.

The Caſe of a Yeoman, Owner of a large incloſed Farm, who, by his Miſmanagement, loſt near fifty Ewes by the Red-water, in the Year 1747.----THIS Yeoman, on the Death of his Brother, came into the Poſſeſſion of a very fine incloſed Farm, ſituated at about twenty Miles Diſtance from *London* in *Hertfordſhire*; but coming into the Farming Buſineſs, at once, from occupying another Sort, he committed a groſs Miſtake in the Management of his Sheep: For, as he undertook to make an Advantage of them by fatting their Lambs on Turnips and Graſs, he fed his Ewes, before and after Lambing, on Turnips, without giving them Hay or Straw beſides; and when his Turnips were eaten off, the Ewes, with their Lambs, were put into his incloſed, fallow Fields, and then into Clover, which compleated the fatting of his Lambs for the Butcher. The very next Year, this Yeoman followed the ſame Practice, feeding his Ewes, and fatting their Lambs on Turnips and Graſs, without giving them dry Meat; the Conſequence whereof was, that, in the Spring, 1747, he loſt near fifty of his Ewes, that died by the Red-water, ſome before, and ſome after Lambing; which made him alter this his Way of fatting Graſs Lambs, and betake himſelf to the ſuckling of Houſe Lambs.---Now to remark on this Yeoman's Miſconduct, I have to ſay, that it was a groſs Miſtake indeed not to have a Sheep-Rack ſtand in the ſame Field, when theſe Ewes were feeding on Turnips, becauſe no Field-Plant is fuller of Sap, or watery Juice, then Turnips or Cole; nor no Plants breed the Red-water in Sheep or Lambs ſo ſoon, and ſo much as theſe do; therefore it was perfectly neceſſary a Sheep-Rack, about fifteen Foot and Half long, and two Foot four Inches wide at Top (the Dimenſions of my own, ſtanding on four Legs) ſhould have been placed in the ſame Field where the Ewes fed on the Turnips, with Hay or Peaſe-Straw. Thoſe Farmers indeed that cannot afford to give their Sheep Hay, ſhould give them Peaſe-Straw, which is the next Fodder they love to feed on, and is the beſt Straw, of all others, to leſſen or prevent the Breed of the Red-water: Nor is there any Food that is a better Security againſt the watery Turnips breeding the Red-water, than to give Sheep dry Meat, either in a Rack or in a Trough, while they feed in a Turnip Field. But I have further to remark, that, had this Yeoman fed his Ewes on

Turnips

Turnips alone, only one Winter Seaſon, he might not, perhaps, have loſt one of them by the Red-water; but it was his feeding them two Winters together on only naked Turnips, that finiſhed the Miſchief; for it was not the Fault of the Land whereon the Turnips grew, becauſe it was a dry gravelly Loam; nor did the Turnips breed ſo much white Water the firſt Years, in the Bellies of the Sheep, as to be turned into a Red-water: And hence it is, that many Sheep, fatted on Turnips, without Hay or other Fodder, eſcape the Red-water, by only one Winter's Feed on them.--The ſame Reaſons may be aſſigned in Behalf of horned Cattle, that if they are kept two Winters on Turnips alone, without having dry Meat allow'd them in the ſame Field, or in an adjacent open Out-houſe, to go at when they pleaſe, their Owners have Reaſon to fear their dying by the fatal Red-water, as many have done; for it's well known, by woful Experience, that if a Cow can come at, and takes to feeding on Grains put into a Store-Tub, Trough, or other Place, for the Uſe of Swine, it is a great Chance if ſhe does not ſcour and rot, or die by the Red-water, as I have known ſeveral Inſtances of: Therefore many Farmers, that uſed to bring up Heifers for Cows, by feeding them on naked Turnips two Winters together, now refuſe doing it in this Manner, becauſe by ſuch long feeding them on Turnips, ſeveral have died by the Red-water. But to return to our Yeoman, I dare ſuppoſe, that if I had ſaid to him, Sir, I can prevent all your Ewes being damaged by the Rot or Red-water, by giving each of them Half a Pint of a moſt cheap Liquor, once in a Month's Time, or, by giving them a particular Sort of dry Meat in a Trough, notwithſtanding they feed on Turnips two or three Winters together, or on Graſs that grows on the worſt wet Grounds in Vales, if you will pay me for a Receipt that has been much approved, and never failed; and which is ſo well atteſted, that there is no reaſonable Room to doubt of its performing what I will warrant it will do: In anſwer to this, it's very probable he would (as many of the incredulous Sort have done) ſay---Sir, I cannot believe you can aſſuredly prevent any Sheep rotting, or having the Red-water, if they feed two Winters together on naked Turnips or Rapes; or if they feed on the worſt of Vale, Graſs Grounds, becauſe many have tried to do what you ſay, and failed in their Aſſurance and Endeavours.

A further Account of the Breed, and Nature of the Red-water, in Sheep and Lambs.---WHAT I have ſaid, and do here ſay of this Malady, I hope will appear to my Reader to be the beſt Account ever given of it, by any Author whatſoever. It is true, that I have loſt a pretty many Sheep by this Diſeaſe, before I knew how to prevent it; but now if I loſe any by it, it will be for want of making uſe of thoſe Means I have a full Knowledge of, in due Time. A Man that I employ at this Time, though he is but five and twenty Years of Age, tells me, he is ſure, he has taken off the Skins of a thouſand Sheep that have died by the Rot and Red-water, and other Diſeaſes, before he came to me, and joins with me in my Sentiments, that a Sheep is the moſt watery Creature of all others, becauſe it takes in Water both by its Mouth, and by its porous Skin, and therefore is the ſooner overcome by it. Now it is on this Account, that the Sheep die by the Rot and the Red-water; for although they are different Maladies, they proceed partly from one Cauſe, which is by too much watery Food, and Water by the Pelt or Skin. Hence it is, that in Vale, and in wet, Chiltern Lands, Sheep die more of the Rot, than of the Red-water, becauſe of the extraordinary Rankneſs of Graſs, Turnips, Rapes, and other moiſt Incidents, which, by Degrees, fill the Sheep's Belly with a White Water at firſt, that cauſes the Rot, and where this White Water does not turn to the Rot, it turns to the Red-water. Now when the Weather is not extream wet, Sheep do not rot in Vales, nor in wet Places, of Chiltern Countries, yet many may die of the Red-water from former Cauſes; as Water in the Belly of the Beaſt breeds ſlowly, and increaſes by little and little, for want of diſcharging it by Urine; and then it lies about the Guts, and between them and the Rim of the Belly, where it ſtagnates, corrupts the Blood, breeds a Fever, and the Fever ſcalding the Blood, alters its pure Nature, and reduces its balſamick Parts into a watery Conſiſtence, that becomes what we call the Red-water, which kills the Sheep, unleſs it has Strength enough (as then but few have) to diſcharge the Red-water by Urine: This is Nature's Favour, and accordingly ſome of the ſtrongeſt and moſt fleſhy Sheep, have piſs'd Red Water, which is the ſureſt Sign, of all others, that a Beaſt has the Red-water; for, without this plain Sign, none can be abſolutely certain of it. For although I have before wrote, that to know if a Sheep has Water in its Belly, it muſt be bore up by its hind

Legs, *&c.* yet all this does not come up to the Sign of piſſing Red Water; and when this is diſcovered, either of the Allum Receipts may be applied.

Corrupted Balls, and Water-Galls, found in the Body of dead Sheep, that 'twas thought would have turn'd to a Red-water, had the Beaſt lived long enough.----A MAN kill'd a little old Sheep of my Plowman's, in *Auguſt*, 1747, weighing under ten Pounds a Quarter, that had but an indifferent Liver; and to its Guts there was a Ball faſtened, as big as a Child's Fiſt, of a fleſhy Subſtance, which the Man ſaid would have corrupted in Time and broke: In ſome other Sheep, he has found one or more Water-Balls or Galls, which are Bladders of Water about the Bigneſs of the corrupted Ball, fix'd to Part of the Guts, which he thought, if the Sheep had lived long enough, would have turned to the Red-water.

A Butcher's Account of the Red-water in Sheep.---HE ſays, A Sheep will be very drowſy and ſleepy for two or three Days, before it dies of the Red-water; and further ſays, he has kill'd many, while they were taken with it, and ſeldom could get above a Spoonful or two of Blood from them, when a ſound Sheep would bleed a Quart or more: Therefore, he ſays, Bleeding is quite wrong when they have the Red-water, becauſe the Blood of the Beaſt is almoſt all a Red Water.---He likewiſe ſays, that a four-toothed Sheep is the moſt ſubject to this Diſeaſe of all others, becauſe theſe are in their greateſt Strength, and conſequently are the greateſt Feeders; and by feeding much on wet, flaſhy Graſs, it brings on the Breed of the Red-water; that if a Sheep is blooded when it has the Red-water, it muſt die the ſooner for it; but if Sheep be blooded in *April* or *May*, when they ſeem in Health, to prevent the Red-water, he holds it good, becauſe it may cauſe a Circulation of the Blood.---This is my Butcher's Account, who is not only a Butcher, but a conſiderable Farmer beſides.

Of Curing the RED-WATER.

The inſipid Method that ſome Farmers take to cure the Red-Water in Sheep.

NOT only in *Hertfordſhire*, *Buckinghamſhire*, and *Bedfordſhire*, but alſo in other Parts, many of their Farmers are ſo very ignorant, as not to take any Meaſures about preventing their Sheep having the Red-water, but let them go on a whole Winter, without giving them any Hay or Straw, if the Weather is open, and they have Graſs enough to live on; others, more careful, will let them feed in the Day-time in the Fields, and bring them home at Night to eat Straw: But hardly any of them take the leaſt Precaution to prevent this deſtructive Malady of the Red-water, by giving their Sheep any Antidote or Medicine; ſo that the poor Creatures muſt take the Chance of Nature, till they fall downright ill: Then indeed, but not before, they begin to adminiſter their grand Arcanum, which is Earth and Piſs; the Earth they rub in the Sheep's Mouth, and when this is done, they piſs into it, or cut off a Bit of its Tail, or Ear, to make it bleed, in order to promote Circulation; but this is to no Purpoſe when a Sheep is ill of the Red-water, for ſuch a Medicine has little or no Relation to its Cure: However, if this does not do, the Sheep muſt take its Chance (as I ſaid) live or die; ſo that hardly any one of their Sheep recovers that is taken ill of the Red-water: Which leads me to give, I hope, a better Account of thoſe Medicines, that carry with them a far greater Probability of Service in Caſe of the Red-water.

The Allum Receipt to cure the Red-water in Sheep and Lambs, when it is diſcover'd by the Beaſt piſſing it.----BEAT Allum into a fine Powder, then mix it with ſome freſh Butter, and give it to a Sheep about the Bigneſs of a Walnut at once, and to a Lamb half as much, by thruſting it down its Throat with the Fingers, two or three times the firſt Day; and if the Red-water does not ſtop piſſing, give it two or three Times, for one or two Days more.---This ſhort Remedy, as ſhort and conciſe as it is, is of great Force in curing this Malady, becauſe the Allum is a corroſive, earthy Salt, conſiſting of an acid Spirit; is of a drying, binding, cleanſing Nature, and therefore rightly adapted

adapted to the Cure of any Looſeneſs of the Belly in Man or Beaſt. To which I add, that a White-water, in a Sheep's Belly, when it turns to a Red-water, does ſo in a very little Time. Therefore a Remedy that can be preſently got ready, and efficacious withal, is the more valuable; and ſuch a one is this, that ought to be applied as ſoon as poſſible, after a Sheep is diſcover'd to piſs red Water. But if a Shepherd has more Time to prepare a Medicine for this almoſt fatal Diſeaſe, he may then make uſe of my ſecond Allum Receipt.

A ſecond Allum Receipt.----TAKE one Ounce of Roch-Allum, and one Ounce of Common Allum; boil theſe in a Pint of Spring-Water, and give it lukewarm at three ſeveral Times to a Sheep, and in Proportion to a Lamb.

A Medicine to be made uſe of for curing Sheep and Lambs that are diſeaſed by the Red-water, and do not piſs it.—RAMS, Wethers, and Ewe Sheep, and well-grown Lambs, are all of them ſubject to die by the Red-water; many by piſſing it, and many that do not piſs it; but to die, notwithſtanding they piſs it, or that Sheep do piſs it, is what no Author ever yet took Notice of, tho' many Sheep have died by it, and, undoubtedly, many more will. One Shepherd aſſures me, he has known half an hundred Sheep and Lambs, that have ſtaled or piſſed Red-Water, ſome of which have died by it, and others recover'd. I have alſo to add, that thoſe Sheep and Lambs that piſs Red-Water, are eaſier cured of it, than thoſe that are diſeaſed by the Red-Water, and piſs it not, becauſe its Quantity by this, is in ſome Degree diſcharged, and leſſened in the Belly of the Beaſt; however, if a timely and proper Remedy is not applied, the Sheep or Lamb will ſurely die of it; for it is a Malady that comes on a great Pace when once it begins, eſpecially if the Sheep and Lambs feed on Cole or Turnips, or Clover, or rank Graſs; but are moſt of all liable to it while they feed on the two firſt, becauſe they are very watery, ſappy, and ſucculent Plants, as is apparent by our Cows, when we fat them in Stalls with Turnips; for although we give them Hay to eat with the Turnips, yet they want no Water to drink all the Time they are fatting on them. Now when this viſible Sign appears, that the Sheep or Lambs ſtale bloody, or red Water, it is then high Time to attempt their Cure; which to do, according to the Method that ſome take, they blood the Sheep or Lamb in the Tail, by cutting acroſs its Inſide near the Rump, or by cutting its Eye-Vein.

To

To perform the firſt Operation, it is no Ways difficult; it is only neceſſary to obſerve, that the Cut muſt be made not too deep: And for performing the laſt, you muſt rub the Eye-Vein ſoundly with your Thumb till it riſes and ſwells; for by ſuch Frotation, the Vein will appear ſo plainly large, that it may be, with Care, ſafely cut acroſs, free of being cut quite in two. This is the Method that ſome take to bleed Sheep and Lambs, preparatory to the Curing of the Red-water, in order to make the Blood of the Beaſt circulate, without fearing the Wound will do otherwiſe than well, though we do nothing to it afterwards: When the Blooding is over, the next Thing to be done towards curing this Diſeaſe, is to prepare a Medicine to be given a Sheep or Lamb inwardly; to which Purpoſe, in the firſt Place, I have to ſay (as I have before hinted) that the Red-water is moſt dangerous when a Sheep or Lamb, infected by it, does not diſcharge it by Urine; for then, as it has no Vent, it increaſeth the faſter, and muſt inevitably kill the Beaſt if not cured: Wherefore, when, by the aforeſaid Trial of ſqueezing and rumbling the Belly of a Sheep, a Shepherd finds there is Water in its Belly; or if it appears to be ſo by the Sheep or Lamb's drivelling a Water at its Mouth, *&c.* then, in the firſt Place, when the Bleeding is over, as before mentioned,---Take ſome common Salt, as much as a ſmall Egg-ſhell will contain, and rub it in the Mouth of a Sheep or Lamb till it is diſſolved and ſwallowed; apply this twice the firſt Day, repeat the ſame the ſecond Day; and, if Occaſion, do it a third Day.----Now to account for the ſalutary Effect of this Salt, I can do it no other Way, than to ſay, it has been found by Experience and Trials, to alter the Colour of the Red-Water, and turn it whitiſh by Degrees; and as white common Salt thus turns its Colour, it cauſes a Sheep or Lamb to diſcharge it by a whitiſh Urine faſter than ordinary, to the curing and delivering the Beaſt from the deſtructive Power of this lamentable Diſeaſe; for that all Salts have a diuretick Quality in them: But this is much better explain'd by a certain Phyſician, who ſays---Common Salt diſſolves, cleanſes, digeſts, attenuates, opens, cuts, purges, is alexipharmick and binding; good againſt all Crudities, Obſtructions, and Weakneſs of the Stomach; Loſs of Appetite, Colick, and Stoppage of Urine; conſequently, it muſt be a proper Medicine to overcome the Red-water, becauſe the Strength and Virtue of the Salt, is of a very forcible Nature, and quick Operation. This is

far beyond the common general Medicine, made uſe of by moſt Farmers and Shepherds in *Hertfordſhire*, &c. of putting Dirt into a Sheep's or Lamb's Mouth, and piſſing into it, to cure this fatal Diſeaſe. I muſt own, indeed, that this very ancient Remedy, and, I may ſay, a moſt common one, is ſerviceable in a few Reſpects that I ſhall hereafter mention; but for recovering a Sheep of the Red-water, I deny its Power. In ſhort, I have only here to ſay further, that, in my third Book, I ſhall give my Reader the moſt famous, and moſt effectual Receipt of all others, for diſcharging Water out of a Sheep's Belly.

An Apothecary's Notion of a Remedy, that will cure the Red-water in a Sheep or Lamb.---TAKE, ſays he, Stinging-Nettles and Roſe-Leaves, of each half a Handful, young Oak-Bark an Ounce, Henbane-Seeds Half a Quarter of an Ounce; Anniſeed, a Quarter of an Ounce: Boil all theſe in a Quart or more of Water, to a fourth Part; to which, when ſtrained, add a Dram of *Venice* Turpentine, firſt mixed in a Mortar with the Yolk of an Egg, adding the Liquor by little and little, till all is intimately mix'd; and laſt of all, add one Spoonful of Cinnamon-Water or Brandy; give a Quantity of this Liquor to each Sheep or Lamb at Diſcretion.---This Melangery of Ingredients, I have to remark, is, in my Opinion, too much perplex'd for a Farmer or Shepherd to make uſe of, who are People that ſtand moſt in Need of the feweſt, and moſt powerful Sorts, readily and eaſily obtain'd: So that if our Apothecary cannot better adapt a Preſcription, he is like to loſe his Invention; and therefore I muſt recommend the two following ones in its Room.

The Somerſetſhire *Receipt for the Red-water.*----PUT a Spoonful of Flower of Brimſtone, into Half a Pint of Man's or Boy's Urine, and repeat it, if Occaſion.

A ſweating Receipt for the Red-water.---BEAT a Quarter of an Ounce of Grains of Paradiſe, and mix it with three Spoonfuls of Treacle, which give to a Sheep, when there is a Sign of its having, or like to have the Red-water: This Doſe ſhould be repeated the third Day after the firſt is given. Obſerve, that theſe two laſt Receipts are of the Sweating Kind; and therefore, if either of them is given in Winter, the Sheep ſhould be houſed.

A Vale Shepherd's Remedy for the Red-water.---THIS Shepherd is of Opinion, that nothing exceeds Tar for the Red-water, by giving a Sheep ſuſpected of this Diſeaſe,

a Tea Spoonful of it at the End of a broad Stick, by Way of a Lick now and then.

Red-water, an Account of it by a ſecond Butcher.---He ſays, that more Lambs die of it in ſome Farms than Sheep, in others more Sheep than Lambs, and that they die chiefly about *Michaelmas* Time. He alſo ſays, that a Farmer, whom he deals with, that lives on a graſſy, clayey Hill near *Gaddeſden*, loſt ten Sheep between *Michaelmas* and *Chriſtmas*, that died of the Red-water; and to make the moſt of one of them, the Farmer had it ſkinn'd and dreſſed; but when he had opened its Body, it ſtunk much: However, it was moſt of it baked in Pyes, but the Fleſh was ſo ſtrong and rank, that the Servants could hardly eat it. He further ſays, that he, and other Butchers have killed many Sheep with Red-Water in their Bellies, and ſometimes found the Crown of a Hat full in one: And then the Fleſh of ſuch an one looks as red as a Fox, is always ſomewhat tainted, and eats rankiſh.

CHAP. IV.

Of accidental Sickneſs, and other Ails and Hurts, in SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

The Hertfordſhire *Way of curing a ſick Sheep or Lamb.*

IT is certain, that Thouſands of ſick Sheep have been loſt for Want of knowing how to prepare and give a proper Remedy to them; and that Remedy which is a cheap one, leaſt difficult to come by, and is efficacious withal, muſt be a proper one to recover a ſick Sheep or Lamb. I ſhall therefore begin with one that I think may be ſerviceable; and the rather, as it is a general Remedy made uſe of by many Farmers and Shepherds, as I before hinted, for recovering a ſick Sheep or Lamb; to this Purpoſe, we ſet the Sheep on its Arſe, and having ſome Virgin-Mould in a Readineſs, it muſt be well rubb'd in and about all the Mouth of the Creature; this done, piſs into its Mouth to waſh down the Earth; but if you cannot conveniently piſs into the Sheep or Lamb's Mouth, pour ſome Piſs into it out of a Mug or Pot; this will quickly paſs through the Sheep or

Lamb,

Lamb, and ſet it a chewing its Cud; then get ſome Sugar-Sops ready, as faſt as you can, which is done by boiling Crumbs of Bread in a Pint of Ale, and ſweetning it with Sugar; this, when cold enough, give by a Spoon, a little at a Time, and often, with the Addition of a little Pepper. I knew a Farmer that ſaid, before he knew this Method, he loſt many Sheep by Sickneſs, but now hardly any die of accidental Sickneſs, if he can give this Medicine time enough. But in caſe you have not a Mind to make uſe of Ale, or cannot conveniently come by it, you may boil Bread in Milk, and mix it with Sugar and Pepper for giving it to the Sheep, as many Shepherds do, and think it more agreeable to the Beaſt than Ale. Again, although I have mentioned, that rubbing the Mouth of a Sheep with Earth and piſſing into it, is (as what is practiſed by many) a good Medicine, yet there be others that refuſe doing any Thing elſe to a ſick Sheep or Lamb, than only to give them Sugar-Sops, believing this to be a ſufficient Remedy; but as I have ſhewn both Ways, a Choice may be made.

Of Sheeps Sickneſs, cauſed by their licking up the Glow-Worm, Red-Worm, Spider, or Grub, &c.—WE, in *Hertfordſhire*, when a Sheep is taken ill, ſo as to ſwell in its Belly, imagine it is either griped, or that it has lick'd up and eaten ſome of the aforeſaid Inſects, and have no Way to deſcribe which Cauſe the Evil proceeds from, but that if its Belly ſwells, and the Sheep does not much tumble and toſs, we then conclude it has been poiſon'd by Inſects, or by ſome diſagreeable unwholſome Herb. The Glow-Worm is an Inſect that has a Shape ſomewhat like a Caterpillar, but of a very ſhort Length, and of a browniſh Colour, lies in the Highways on Commons, and under Hedges; theſe crawling on the Graſs, we think, are taken into the Sheeps Mouths as they are feeding on it, and thus poiſon, make the Body ſwell, and kill great Numbers: The like may happen by Spiders, Grubs, *&c.* Some Shepherds have different Notions on the Sickneſs of Sheep; one ſays, he knows of no ſuch Thing as a Sheep's being poiſon'd by licking up Inſects, but believes that the only one Cauſe that makes a Sheep ſuddenly ſwell in its Belly, is the Gripes; and that if a Sheep is otherwiſe ſick, it only mopes about, and will not feed, and thus pines and dies: Or will ſhew it by its heaving and panting, and making a Motion as if it would run its Head againſt the Ground; when this is the Caſe, few of them recover, becauſe few Farmers know any other

other Remedy than to bleed the Beaſt, and give it a Spoonful or two of Sweet-Oil, which makes few Sheep or Lambs recover; for, if the Oil will not do, the Creature muſt die: Wherefore, I ſhall firſt give an Account of ſeveral Medicines for curing ſick Sheep, preſcribed by ancient Authors, and then add ſome of my own, for my Reader's greater Choice. ---- One of theſe Authors ſays, when a Sheep has happened to eat any Thing that occaſions its Body to ſwell, bleed it in the Lip and under the Tail, giving it a large Spoonful of Olive Oil, or ſharp White-Wine Vinegar, or two good Spoonfuls of human Urine from a ſound Perſon: A very inſipid Receipt indeed!---The next ancient Author's Receipt for a Sheep that is ſick, by Pains in the Belly, or by eating poiſonous Inſects or Herbs, is a better one than the laſt; becauſe he ſays, when a Sheep is in this Condition, it will draw up its Belly and Hind Feet, often lying down, and ſuddenly ſtarting up. The Remedy is, (ſays he) to take a Handful of Rue and Southernwood, and boil them with an Ounce of Coriander Seeds in fair Water, and give it the Sheep to drink pretty warm. This Receipt muſt be a proper one for their Purpoſe, becauſe all the Ingredients are of a hot Nature, which, when ſtrain'd off, ſhould be given to the Quantity of Half a Pint at a Time, to a Sheep for one Doſe, which is what he has not adjuſted: A Fault ſeveral antient Authors are guilty of; for without the due Knowledge of the due Quantity of a Medicine, a Sheep may be killed, inſtead of being ſaved.---This is a good Receipt for a Sheep that is griped.---A third ancient Author ſays, Change of Paſture is a great Cure for a ſick Sheep, and if you find any one more particularly troubled than the reſt, ſtamp ſome Penny-Royal, and ſqueeze it till you get out Half a Quarter of a Pint of Juice, which mix with a Quartern of Vinegar, and as much Water; infuſe a little Mithridate into it, and give it warm to a Sheep faſting, out of a Cup or Horn; drive it gently about for Half an Hour, and then houſe it. He ſays, that, in theſe Sickneſſes, the Shepherd muſt have a great Care to note from whence the Diſeaſe cometh; if it proceed from Cold, then to drive the Sheep to ſhelter; if from Heat, then to feed them in ſhady and cool Places. This Receipt (he ſays) is calculated for Sickneſs in general, in Sheep or Lambs.

The Practice of an old Farmer in Hertfordſhire, *to cure a Sheep of the Gripes, or otherwiſe ſick.*---THIS old Farmer made it his general Practice, whenever he perceived one of

his Sheep ſick, by the Gripes or otherwiſe, to get a Spoonful or two of Worm-caſt Mould, or as much of the Mould that is thrown up by Moles; or if he could not get this, then he would procure ſome Virgin-Earth, with which he would rub all the Inſide of the Sheep's Mouth, then piſs into it.----Others mix ſuch Earth with Piſs, and give three or four Spoonfuls of it to a Sheep at a Time. This Remedy, they believe, will reduce a ſwell'd Sheep's Body, and cure its Sickneſs; and the Reaſon why they prefer Molecaſts or Wormcaſts, is, becauſe this Earth has a greater Share of Nitre in it, than others.

An ancient Author's Receipt to cure Sickneſs in Sheep, of what Kind ſoever it is.---It is convenient (ſays he) for all Keepers of Sheep to have the following Medicine by them, as well in the Field as in the Houſe, to remedy any ſudden Sickneſs, and ſtay a Sheep alive till other Medicines can be got, eſpecially in the Fever, Pox, Rot, defective Lungs, or the like. It is (ſays he) excellent.---Take Penny-Royal, half a Handful, Scabious and Shepherd's-Purſe, a like Quantity; boil theſe, when you have bruiſed them well, in three Pints of ſmall Ale, and ſtrain out the liquid Part by hard ſqueezing and preſſing the Herbs; then put to it two Ounces of *London*-Treacle, put it up in a Bottle and ſtop it cloſe, and give a Quarter of a Pint of this to any Sheep you ſee in Diſorder, and it will be of wonderful Uſe for their Preſervation, and reſtoring them to Health.---I muſt own, that this Receipt is well founded, for anſwering the intended Purpoſe of helping ſick Sheep. However, I think there is Room for the following ones.

This Author's Receipt to cure Sickneſs in Sheep, of what Kind ſoever it is.---The moſt general Sickneſs in Sheep proceeds from a defective Stomach, which Shepherds in *Buckinghamſhire*, call Maw-Sick; when ſuch Sickneſs is in a great Degree, the Eyes of a Sheep will ſettle in its Head, it will groan much, and pine away, if not timely relieved; wherefore, a Remedy that can be quickly got ready, muſt be *à propos* in this Caſe. To this Purpoſe, take a Pint of new Milk, a Spoonful of Tar, and a Halfpennyworth of Honey; mix them together, and give it warm to a Sheep at twice.

How the Author's Ram and a Lamb was taken ſick and cured.---On the 16th Day of *October*, 1747, I had a Ram and a Lamb taken ill in the Field; they panted much, look'd heavy-headed, lay down every now and then, and did not

feed. The Ram being in an incloſed Field where I was ſowing Wheat, my Plowman ſeeing this, ſtopp'd his Team, cut a Bit of Turf up, and took a Piece of the next under Mould, about the Bigneſs of a Crow's Egg, and rubb'd it in the Mouth of the Ram till he loſt it; then he immediately piſs'd on the out Part of his Hat, and making his Plow-Boy or Driver hold the Ram by its Horns, he poured the Piſs by the Point of his folded Hat into the Ram's Mouth; and in about a Quarter of an Hour, the Sheep fed heartily on Graſs. As to the Lamb that fell ſick in another Part of my Ground, my Man, that had been a Shepherd almoſt all his Life, put its Body between his Legs, and wetting the Ball of his Thumb now and then, he fell a rubbing the Eye-Vein juſt under the Corner of the Lamb's Eye, a pretty while, till he heated and raiſed it full enough to be felt; upon this, he directly jobb'd the broad Point of his ſmall Pocket-Knife ſo hard on it, that he wounded or cut the Vein, but not quite in two, and it bled well; and as the Blood ran down the Cheek of the Lamb, he, with his Fore-Finger, rubb'd it into its Mouth, and in rubbing it in, he mix'd about as much Salt with it, as would lie on a Half-penny; this done, he let the Lamb go away bleeding, and cured it.---By this Operation there was a double Chance of curing this Lamb: For firſt, if the Lamb was ſick by an Overflow of Blood, the Diſcharge of Blood by the Eye-Vein would conſequently help, and prevent its being overcome by the Staggers; and if it was ſeized by the Gripes or Colick, the Blood being mixed hot with the Salt, would have tended very much towards its Cure, And as to the Cure of the Ram, the Plowman ſurely acted very prudential in doing what he did; for, having but very little Time, he certainly employed it to the beſt Advantage, by cutting a Turf, and giving the Virgin-Earth, with Piſs, to the Sheep, which had the deſir'd Succeſs; becauſe, in ſuch freſh Earth, there muſt be a little reviving Salt-petre; and, in the Piſs, there muſt be likewiſe a balſamick Salt; both which being given in a Mixture, conſequently proved both cordial and healing, to the Recovery of the Beaſt, as their Effect made it appear.

The Devonſhire *Receipt for curing ſick Sheep.*---FIRST, on a Sheep's being taken ill, give it two Spoonfuls of Sallad-Oil, then give it Half a Pint of Metheglin, wherein as many Grains of Paradiſe are mix'd, as will lie on a Six-pence; if this does not do, give a Quarter of a Pint of

Metheglin ſome Time after; but take Care not to over-doſe theſe Creatures, for then the Remedy may be worſe than the Diſeaſe: A Sign of this is, when you ſee a Sheep's Eyes water.---Or you may make this Medicine better, by mixing the Grains of Paradiſe bruiſed, with the Oil, and give it.---Again, if the Sheep is weak, or if it is to be given to a full-grown Lamb, give it in half this Quantity at a Time, and repeat, if Occaſion, at Diſcretion.

The Buckinghamſhire *Receipt to cure a Sheep of a Chill or Cold.*---TAKE half a Spoonful of Tar, one Spoonful of Treacle, and mix both in Half a Pint of new Milk, and give it warm to a Sheep.

This Author's Receipt for curing a Sheep of that common Ail, the Gripes.---A SHEEP, when troubled with this Malady, will tumble, like a Horſe that is griped. If this happens in Summer-time, cut croſs the Inſide of the Sheep's Tail pretty high; if in Winter, you may cut a Bit of its Tail quite off without Danger, and do nothing to it. And why they don't cut off the Tail in Summer, is, becauſe the Fly is apt to blow it and breed Maggots, and 'tis hard to ſtop the Bleeding.---Mix as much Barley-Meal with a Quarter of a Pint of Gin, as the Gin will take up to make it into a Paſte, and give it forthwith to a griped Sheep at twice or thrice; one Parcel immediately to follow the other, till it is all given; and when it is all given, then pour down a Sheep's Throat, a ſhort Half Quartern of naked Gin. Barley-Meal being a drier, rougher Sort than Wheat-Meal, is thought to be more proper for this Purpoſe than Wheat-Meal.; but if the firſt cannot be got, the laſt will do: With this very Remedy, a Shepherd, that is at this Time working for me, aſſures me, he believes he has cured Half a Score Sheep in his Time, by this Remedy, and never knew it once fail. But as this is a Capital Receipt for the Gripes in a Sheep, I will give it a little more particular.

A ſecond Receipt.---AN old Vale Shepherd to cure this panick Diſtemper in a Sheep, would make a Cram with half Barley-Meal, and half Wheat-Meal, and kneading it into a Dough with Gin about the Bigneſs of a Hen's Egg, he gave it at twice; his Notion is, that, as the Barley-Meal is mix'd with Wheat-Meal, it makes the better Remedy; becauſe the Barley-Meal is of a ſhorter, ſtiffer, and drier Nature, than the Wheat-Meal. A griped Sheep (ſays he) will lie down and riſe ſuddenly ſeveral Times, and at length

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the Belly will ſwell, and the Sheep die, if not timely relieved.

This Author's Receipt for the Gripes, or Colick, in Sheep.---THE Sign of the Colick is the ſame with the Gripes, and whether it be Gripes or Colick, this Remedy will anſwer; which is to mix half a Spoonful of Powder of Ginger, with as much Liquorice Powder, and mix them with Half a Pint of Metheglin, and give a Quantity of it at Diſcretion.

A ſecond Receipt.---THIS may be occaſioned, not only by eating unwholeſome Food, but by ſeveral other Ways. To cure it, let Blood under the Tail, and give it Water to drink, wherein Rue, Camomile, and Bay-Leaves have been boiled.

An ancient Author's Receipt to cure any Defect in the Lungs of a Sheep.---HE ſays, take a Handful of red Sage, the like Quantity of Purſlain, Parſley, Coltsfoot, a Herb (ſays he) ſo called, and a Root of Garlick, boil them well after they are bruiſed in a Quart of White-Wine; then add to the ſtrain'd Liquor, an Ounce of Honey, and an Ounce of Mithridate; and give it to an afflicted Beaſt, Morning and Evening.

This Author's Receipt for the ſame Purpoſe.---THE laſt Receipt, I think, is a prepoſterous one; for, if a Farmer had many ſuch diſtemper'd Sheep to doctor, the Remedy might coſt more than they are worth; at leaſt, it is enough to diſcourage a Farmer, Shepherd, or any other, from attempting its Uſe. I will therefore give a cheaper and ſhorter one for this Malady, that is known by a Sheep's being hoarſe, ſhort-winded, and hanging out its Tongue.—Take a Halfpennyworth of Bole-Armoniack; of Hempſeed and Lungwort, of each a little Boy's Handful; beat them all well, and then boil them in three Pints of ſtrong Beer, of which give a Sheep Half a Pint now and then, at Diſcretion.

For the Sickneſs of the Gall, Choler, Jaundice, and ſuch like, by an ancient Author.---IF you ſee (ſays he) the Skin yellow or bluiſh, theſe Humours abound, and cauſe a feveriſh Heat: To reduce them, take a Handful of Elder-Leaves, one Ounce of the Seeds of Piony; or for Want of Elder-Leaves, Elder-Bark; bruiſe and boil them in a Pint of Ale, and give it warm at twice.

A ſecond Receipt.--TAKE, (ſays another ancient Author) Plantane and Lettice, ſtamp them together; mix their Juice with Vinegar, and give Half a Pint to a Sheep.

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A third Receipt.---TAKE (ſays another) a Pint of ſtale Urine, Half an Ounce of Allum, and a Dram of Saffron; boil them together to the Conſumption of a third Part, and give it warm; or take it this Way:

A fourth Receipt.---BURN two Ounces of Allum, beat it to Powder, with an Ounce of Turmerick, put a Dram of Saffron to them, and give ſome of it in Man's Urine, warm to a Sheep.

A fifth Receipt.---SICKNESS (ſays another) comes often by over-driving Sheep, or their being too much expoſed to the Heat of the Sun, which often turns to Fevers, or the Plague, if not timely remedied. Waſh them (ſays he) with warm Water, wherein Sage, Pimpernel, and Lavender, have been boiled; then boil Hyſſop and Polipodium in Whey, and give it a Sheep to drink.

To refreſh and cure a Sheep for the preſent, of tiring by travelling.---IF, with moderate Driving, Sheep lie down, loll out their Tongues, pant, and are tired, take Plantane, bruiſe it, and rub their Mouths and Noſes with it, then take Arſmart, which grows in almoſt every wet Ditch; do the like with this, and rub alſo their Fundament; and after they have drank a little Water, they will go on with Courage.

Sheep ſickening, by feeding on Turnips, after a Thaw.---WHEN Turnips thaw, after a hard Froſt, (for a little Froſt don't hurt them) they are very apt to make a Sheep ſick and die. In the hard Froſt of 1740, a Butcher had many feeding in a Field of Turnips, ſome of which died by Sickneſs, that the thawed rotten Turnips occaſioned; and many more would have died, had not the Butcher kill'd them.---Now this Evil might have been eaſily prevented by a Trough Meat, had this Butcher known how to have prepared a proper one: Wherefore, to prevent the like Misfortune, I ſhall hereafter give my Reader an Account how to prepare ſuch a one, as would ſurely have ſaved all theſe Sheep.

The Deſcription of the Garget Diſeaſe in Sheep, and its Cure by outward and inward Remedies, by this Author.---WHEN this Diſeaſe firſt ſeizes a Sheep, it generally goes ſtiff with its Legs, or falls lame in one, or both of them; or its Fleſh, in the Briſket Part, will turn blackiſh; and, in Time, the Part will ſwell, and, perhaps, gather to a Head or Ripeneſs: When this is perceived, it muſt be lanced and opened with a Penknife; and next, the following Poultice, or rather Ointment, ſhould be applied to the

the Part.---Take Ale-Grounds, Soap, Salt, and the cooling Mallow Herb; boil theſe together into a proper Conſiſtence. ---At the ſame Time have the following Drink made in Readineſs;---boil ſome Garlick in a Quart of ſtrong Beer, and give three Spoonfuls of it now and then to the ſame Sheep.---*N. B.* When a Sheep dies of this Diſeaſe called the Garget, which is a Sort of Murrain, its Guts are all black.

To cure a Sheep's gargetty Bag, or Udder.---THIS Malady is known by a red Inflammation, a corey Hardneſs, and ſometimes a Swelling in the Part, by which a Ewe is diſabled giving Suck; and if the Diſtemper is let alone too long, before a proper Remedy is applied, it will ſurely kill the Sheep.---Our Shepherds, for this, make no more to do, than to mix freſh Tar and Gooſe-Greaſe together, in like Quantities, which when they have Occaſion to uſe, they heat it over a Fire, and rub it in hot, two or three Times a Day, for two or three Days, and it cures.

A quick Way to cure a ſick Sheep or Lamb.---I KNOW a Shepherd that depends only on giving a Tea-Spoonful of Tar, for curing a ſick Sheep.

To cure a ſick Sheep with Nettles.---As a Sheep may fall ſick at a Time when a Shepherd has nothing with him to cure it, he may put ſome Nettles into its Mouth, and tho' it is ſick, it muſt be forced to eat them; and when it has ſo done, the Shepherd ſhould piſs into its Mouth: This has anſwer'd as a common Remedy both in Summer and Winter.

How two Sheep were prevented ſtarving, by eating each other's Wool.---TWO Sheep that fell into a Chalk Dell or Hole, not being able to get out of it, were forced to be in it ſeveral Days before they were diſcovered; and being diſcovered, it was known that they had lived by gnawing the Wool off each other's Back.

A Sheep's Ear ſwell'd and cured.---MY next Neighbour had a Sheep that had a ſore Head, and as it itch'd, the Sheep would often move its Ear, and continued it till it ſwell'd much, by flopping it againſt the Horn, which obliged him to cut off the Sheep's Ear; and to cure it, he anointed the Part now and then with a Mixture made with Soap, Lard, and Horſe-Turpentine, boiling-hot; for, by applying it ſo hot, it laid the Itching, and quickly cured it; but then he fetter'd the Sheep's Hind Legs, to keep it from ſcratch-

ing

ing the Wound.---This is a common Evil when Sheep have ſore Heads.

To heal the Skin that is torn off a Sheep by a Dog.---This Damage now and then happens, and when it happens, a Mixture of freſh Tar and freſh Greaſe will cure it: But then the Mixture muſt be applied very hot; and, if it is torn much, as ſoon as the Remedy is applied, the Skin muſt be laid down on it, and it will heal and become ſound again. ---*N. B.* A Sheep will eaſily bear almoſt any hot Application.

An excellent cheap Elder-Salve to be made for curing the ſore Heads of Sheep and Lambs.---This Salve no Farmer, Shepherd, nor others, ought to be without, becauſe it is of excellent Service in curing that common Ail of Sheep in Summer-Time, a ſore Head. To cure which, our Shepherds make an Ointment, as ſoon as ever they can get Leaves enough off the Elder-Tree, to ſqueeze a ſufficient Quantity of Juice out of them; which when obtained, they boil it up with Hog's-Lard, and keep it in a Pot by them all the Year, to anoint the ſore Heads of Sheep and Lambs, which the Fly will cauſe, as well as the Sheep's Hind Foot; and make the ſore Place increaſe till it ſpoils the Beaſt, unleſs timely prevented, by this, or ſome other Remedy.

The Caſe of a Hertfordſhire *Gentleman, who, out of his Flock of nine Score Store Folding Sheep, had not above twenty that were free of ſore Heads, and the Method he took to cure them.*---With this Gentleman my Horſekeeper lived, in 1747, and aſſures me, that, out of one hundred and eighty of his folding Sheep, he verily believes, there were not above twenty of them free of ſore Heads; which obliged him to have them anointed every Morning and Evening till they recovered, with the following Ointment.---He put into his Pitch-Pot, Pitch, Flower of Brimſtone, Redding, and the Coomb of his Waggon and Cart Wheels; and when he had well incorporated them over a Fire, and kept it in a Pot, he had it always ready to uſe.

How to cure a Ewe's Udder or Bag that is bruiſed, or cored and ſwell'd.---This may happen to a Ewe by ſeveral Means. Firſt, ſhe may come by theſe Misfortunes by leaping over a Hurdle or Stile, or by ſtriving to get through a narrow Place in a Hedge, or by fighting with another Ewe. Secondly, ſhe may get it by a foul Humour in her Blood, or by having her Lamb taken from her, and her Udder not done

done any Thing to afterwards, or by a ſtrong Lamb's butting her Udder too violently: In any of theſe Caſes, her Udder may become hard, corey, inflamed, and ſwell'd. Sometimes it begins in one Teat, then another, and ſo all the reſt, and at laſt it takes the Bag and Guts; and then, if not timely remedied, the Sheep dies. We therefore, every Year, make a Pot of Adder's-Tongue Ointment, for curing my Sheep and Cows Udders, that are very ſubject to this Malady. Adder's-Tongue is a Herb, or Graſs, that grows in my Meadows, known by its peeked Leaf, or Stalk, that grows in Shape like the Tongue of a Snake or Adder, and is in its full Sap and Virtue in *May*; when gathered, we cut it ſmall, and ſtamp it in a Mortar, then ſqueeze out its Juice, and boil it up in freſh Lard, or better in freſh Butter, unſalted: Put the Juice and Butter in a Saucepan, and boil them for a Quarter of an Hour.

William Tail, *of* Dagnal *in* Bedfordſhire, *his Way of curing a Sheep taken with the Gripes.*---THIS Shepherd (ſays he) never found any Thing anſwer better, for curing a griped Sheep, than to make ſome Sugar-Sops directly; and when the Crumb of Bread and Ale is boiled, he then adds ſome Sugar, and a little Pepper, with a ſmall Quantity of Gin, and gives it out of the Bowl of a Spoon at his Diſcretion.

The Receipt of William Seers *of* Stuteley, *in* Buckinghamſhire, *by which he cured ſeveral* SHEEP *bit by mad* DOGS; *and by which he cured himſelf of being bit twice by mad* DOGS, *as well as others.*

To cure the Bite of a mad Dog in Man or Beaſt, as proved by ſeveral Cures performed by William Seers *of* Stuteley.

BRUISE (ſays he) ſome Garlick, and rub the bitten Place well with it; then bruiſe Burdock Root with Salt, and apply it Plaiſterwiſe to the Wound, either in Man or Beaſt, and it will cure. One *William Seers*, an old Shepherd, living at *Stutely* aforeſaid, a Village lying about nine Miles from *Gaddeſden*, diſcovered this Receipt to an intimate Friend of his, telling him that he himſelf was bit twice by a mad Dog, and cured by this very Medicine,

 without

without taking any Thing inwardly for the ſame; and has likewiſe cured ſeveral Perſons ſince, bit by mad Dogs: And has had the ſame Effect when he has applied it to Sheep bit by mad Dogs; nor did he ever know it miſs of curing: But then due Care muſt be taken to renew this Remedy every other Day for a Week.---This moſt excellent Burdock Root has this Character given it by Phyſicians. One ſays, it is hot and dry, excellent in ulcerated Lungs and Bruiſes in the Stomach. Bruiſed, and applied with Salt, (ſays he) it helps the Biting of mad Dogs: That the Herb of it cures Leproſies, and outwardly, is of excellent Uſe in the King's Evil, to diſcuſs Tumours, and to kill the burning Heat of Cancers; as alſo to help the Shrinking of the Sinews and Arteries. The Leaves of Burdock (ſays another) are good for Burns and inflammatory Tumours.---And, I ſay, that Burdock Root, whether it be the great or ſmall Sort, (but the Shepherd ſays, the great Sort is beſt for this Purpoſe) may be kept dry in a Houſe for Years; and when it is wanted, it is only bruiſing it with Salt, and it is a ready Remedy.

The Caſe of an eminent FARMER, *in* Buckinghamſhire, *who, for fear the poor leaſing People ſhould carry away all his gleaning Wheat, turned his Flock of* SHEEP *into the ſame Field, at the ſame Time the Leaſers entered it; and how, by this his Covetouſneſs, he loſt ſeventeen of his* SHEEP.

How an eminent Farmer in the County of Bucks, *loſt ſeventeen of his Sheep by his Covetouſneſs.*

THIS Farmer was an eminent one indeed; for he not only rented a large Farm, but alſo rented moſt of the Tything of a very large Pariſh in *Buckinghamſhire*, ſo that he paid his Landlord about three hundred Pounds a Year, for the ſame. It was this Farmer that kept a very numerous Flock of Store Sheep to dreſs his Land, for the better increaſing his Crops of Corn. Now it happened, that in the Harveſt, 1743, this very Farmer, as ſoon as he had carried his Wheat-ſheaves out of a large Field, the poor People

ple of his Pariſh, entered the ſame Field to leaſe and glean it of thoſe Ears of Wheat, which had been broken off in reaping, in binding, and in loading the Sheaves; and as theſe poor People thus entered the Field, this Farmer made his Shepherd turn his Flock of Store Sheep, at the ſame Time, into it with them, out of Covetouſneſs, to pick up, and eat, what ſcatter'd Ears of Wheat they could get, leſt the poor People ſhould carry them all away. But behold the ſad Effect of this his wicked Avarice: His Flock had not been long in the Field, before ſome of them begun to choak by eating the Wheat-Ears; for, as theſe are a rough Food, furniſhed with a ſtrong tough Straw and Chaff, the Sheep could not eat them ſo clean, but that they would ſtick by the Way; and not being able to ſwallow them, no leſs than ſeventeen were choaked and killed on the Spot. Nor is it much of a Wonder that it ſo happened, ſince Wheat-Ears and Barley-Ears, are the two worſt Sort of Ears that Sheep can poſſibly eat, becauſe they both have ſuch a rough, chaffy, hairy Make with them, that unleſs they are chewed very ſmall, it is more than likely, they choak a Sheep, eſpecially if they are turned into a Field very hungry, where ſuch Ears lie in Plenty, as I ſuppoſe the Caſe was with theſe ſame Sheep that ſo died; and which I am the rather inclined to believe, as this Accident happened in Harveſt-Time, when Graſs was very ſhort every where, where theſe Sheep grazed; or it might be, with great Probability, that this fatal Misfortune came to paſs, by Way of a juſt Judgment on this covetous Farmer; who, to deprive the poor People of a few Gleanings, cauſed his Flock, of a great Number of Sheep, to enter the Field with them. It is true indeed, and it has been found by woful Experience, that the generality of poor People, are Thieves in ſome Degree or other, to Farmers; and that, by their great Numbers, they are very apt to force themſelves into a Wheat-Field, as ſoon as the Farmer's Servants begin binding the Wheat-ſheaves, or, at furtheſt, when they begin to ſhock the Sheaves; whereby they too often take the Opportunity then, and at other Times, before the Sheaves are carried home, to filch and pilfer ſome of the Wheat-Ears from the Farmer: And therefore I hope our wiſe Legiſlators will enact a Law to make ſuch Thievery more than ordinary penal. But when the poor People follow the Cart into the Wheat-Field, and forbear gleaning till that Time, I cannot help being of Opinion, that it is an enormous Sin to deprive them of any

Part of their Leaſings or Gleanings; ſince it is juſt and fair they ſhould enjoy that full Liberty of leaſing, or gleaning Fields, which God has appointed them; but when they abuſe this Liberty, they juſtly deſerve to be puniſh'd. Yet I never knew one Harveſt, but what ſome of the Gleaners pilfer'd more or leſs of our Farmers Grain.---A labouring Man that was hired for the Harveſt Month to work with a Farmer, lived ſo near him, that after walking about Half a Mile, he was at home; and as he came home every Night to his own Habitation, in the Duſk of the Evening, he took the Opportunity to lay behind, and ſpend Part of the Night in taking out Ears of Wheat from the Sheaves, as they ſtood in Shocks, for drying and hardening the Kernels in the Field, and for withering and killing all Weeds, that might have been gathered up and bound with the Wheat: For which Reaſon, it is a common Practice with us in *Hertfordſhire*, to let our Wheat ſtand thus abroad in Shocks, ſometimes a Week or Fortnight together. Now it was in this Time that this Villain, and other ſuch, made it their Buſineſs to plunder the Farmer, by ſtealing his Wheat for maintaining their Families, while we Farmers, and our Servants, fatigued with the hard laborious Work and Buſineſs of the preceding Day, are ſleeping in our Beds: And for a ſure Proof of this labouring Man's Thievery, his little Boy told it in the Neighbourhood, that his Father got more Wheat in the Night, than ſome do in the Day. A Woman likewiſe and her Daughter, this Harveſt, 1747, leaſed ten Buſhels and a Half of Wheat, (as ſhe ſaid, honeſtly) but it is well known, ſhe is a great Thief; and, with others, ſets out in a Morning, ſometimes before it is light, to leaſe amongſt our Shocks of Wheat, on Purpoſe to ſcreen and conceal their Thievery. And it was this Woman that this Year, with another, had the Aſſurance to begin leaſing a Barley-Field of mine, before it was Draft-raked; and would have carried what they got off, had not my Servant ſeen them in the Action. In ſhort, I think there are about forty in our little Pariſh of *Little Gaddeſden*, that go a Leaſing; and if every one of them were to take but a little Wheat from a Farmer, it might amount to a great Quantity. But the Farmer might be intirely freed from the Danger of this Loſs, if the Leaſers were obliged to forbear leaſing, till the Cart firſt enters the Field for carrying home the Shocks of Wheat; but regardleſs of this, many of them ſteal Wheat, Barley, Oats, Peaſe, *&c.* which is

not only wronging the Farmer, but the Landlord alſo; for if the Farmer is damaged, the Landlord may fall ſhort of his Rent: However, here may a Queſtion ariſe---Why don't the Farmer hinder them leaſing before their due Time, and keep them out of the Field till the Cart comes in, to carry off the Sheaves into the Barn? To this I anſwer, that, as Gleaners have taken the Liberty a long Time paſt, to leaſe and glean Fields of Wheat before the Corn is carried from them, there is hardly any ſuch Thing as breaking them of it, without a more penal Law is enacted than what is; therefore, it is to be hoped that our Repreſentatives, who are moſt of them Owners of landed Eſtates, will act ſo much in Behalf of their own and Tenants Intereſt, as to clauſe an Act of Parliament with a penal Prohibition to all Leaſers, or Gleaners, of any Sort of Corn in the Field, not to dare leaſing or gleaning it, before the Farmer's Cart or Waggon is in it, to begin carrying the Corn home, under double the Puniſhment of what is now ordained, unleſs the Farmer firſt gives them Leave to do it: And the ſame on Account of any Perſon's ſtealing any Wood, Fruit or any other of the Farmer's Goods, or doing him, in any other Shape, any wilful Damage; for I cannot but think it a double Hardſhip to pay three Shillings in the Pound to a Poors Rate, as we at *Gaddeſden* did in the Year 1747, (and in ſome Pariſhes they pay four,) and be robbed by ſome of theſe Poor we otherwiſe help to maintain; notwithſtanding our Poor fare abundantly better than Thouſands of others, by the ſeveral Donations left by charitable Perſons, to relieve and aſſiſt them for ever; beſides, what they enjoy by the weekly Benevolence of the moſt noble Lord of our Mannor; who, by his generous Gifts of Money now and then, the Victuals he weekly diſtributes amongſt them, the rotten and windfal Wood, he allows them, at all Times, to get out of one of the beſt-wooded Parks in the Kingdom, and his employing conſiderable Numbers of our Day-Labourers, may enable them to live well without ſtealing through Neceſſity. A moſt evident Proof of which, was obvious in the great froſty Year of 1740, when, I dare ſay, our Poor hardly knew what Want was, by theſe Sort of Benevolences, that were extended to them by the late *Scroop*, Duke of *Bridgewater*, while Thouſands, in ſome other Parts, were ſtarved to Death. Many poor People, even in *Cheſhire*, were, in this long, hard, dear Seaſon, forced to beg Grains of their richer Neighbours for their daily Subſiſtence; for

for Wheat was this Year ſold, in ſome Parts, for near Eight Shillings a Buſhel.

The Caſe of a WICKED FARMER, *living near* Leyburne *in* Buckinghamſhire, *who on Curſing and Damning his Sheep, Twenty of them, the Night following, were drowned.*

THIS Man rented one Yard-Land, containing thirty Acres, three of which were Meadow, and the reſt ploughed Land; and for dreſſing it he kept ſixty Sheep, according to his Right of Commoning; for every Half-acre of Arable Land gave him a Privilege to keep one Sheep on the Common-Ground of the Pariſh. Now this Farmer, above all his Neighbours, was notoriouſly remarkable for the frequent Oaths and Curſes that he uſually belched out in his common Diſcourſe; a Wickedneſs the moſt unprofitable of all others, and moſt highly offenſive to Almighty God, who has denounced his ſevere Judgments againſt the Commiſſion of it: *For becauſe of Swearing the Land mourns.* It is this Sin that is more than ordinary in uſe in this Part of the Country, becauſe as *Leyburne* lies but about two Miles diſtant from *Leighton* Great Market, where many of the *London* Cow-dealers and Drovers weekly reſort, they, by their bad Examples, teach others to do the like; ſo that ſuch horrid Oaths and Curſes are uttered by great Numbers of young and old Perſons, in theſe Parts, as may juſtly grate the Ears of virtuous People: And I wiſh our preſent Calamities of the Plague amongſt the Horned Cattle, and Sickneſs amongſt Chriſtians, *&c.* are not much of them owing to this common and deteſtable Vice, againſt which I think our Laws are ſtill not made penal enough to ſuppreſs it. This brings to my Memory the Pains that the pious Mayor of *Canterbury* took, in the Year 1738, to perſuade Perſons againſt committing the Sin of Swearing, and for doing it publickly, he had printed Papers ſtuck up, in ſeveral Parts of his City, with the following Words,----*Accuſtom not thyſelf to ſwearing, neither uſe thyſelf to the naming of the Holy One: A Man that uſeth much Swearing, ſhall be filled with Iniquity, and the Plague ſhall never depart from his Houſe. If a Man ſwear falſly, he ſhall not be innocent, but his Houſe ſhall be full of Calamities,* Eccluſ. xxiii. 9, 10, 12. Then this good Man goes on, and ſays,

ſays, When ye all leave off Swearing, then I intend to leave off Printing; and I admoniſh ye all to leave off, before your Tongues begin to ſwell.----But to return to my Subject of this Man and his Sheep: I have further to ſay, that as he kept his Flock about the Pariſh Common-Ground, and went on well in the Farming Buſineſs, he one Night in Winter left his Sheep to graze near *Leyburne* Brook, which is a continual running Water, through a very low Situation, and when he left them here, he ſaid, here they ſhall be, let them be curſed and be damned and they will. Now what followed this was, that in the Night-time ſuch a heavy Rain fell, as floated the Brook, and much Land about it, by the Current of which twenty of his ſixty Sheep were carried away and drowned; ſo that this reprobate Farmer was thereby reduced to very narrow Circumſtances, for without Sheep he could not carry on his Farming in common, open-field Land: And from the Time that this Misfortune happened, this wicked Man grew poorer and poorer, till, at laſt, he was ſo far ruined as to become a Day-Labourer, as he now is this 28th Day of *October*, 1747.----But to make a little further Improvement of this wicked Man's Caſe; I hope it will be agreeable to my Reader, when he reads the Words of a Doctor of Divinity on the Sin of Curſing; who writes as follows, *viz.* Know, ſays he, that it is not permitted you to curſe God's Creatures, and among them Man in particular, who was created after his Image. That Curſe which is uttered againſt a reaſonable Creature, is a moſt heinous Sin in itſelf, becauſe it is oppoſite to that of Love; and then adds, Let us take great Care not to curſe others, not the very Animals, nor even inanimate Creatures, becauſe, ſays the King of Prophets, *Pſalm* cix. 17. *As he loved Curſing, ſo let it come unto him.* Again, St. *Paul* ſays, *Gal.* vi. 8. *That which a Man ſoweth, he ſhall reap*; he then that ſowed nothing but Maledictions during his Life, ſhall reap no other but the Malediction of the Son of God, at the Day of Judgment. But I am ſorry I have Reaſon to ſay, that by an ill Cuſtom, in ſome Parts of our Country of *Hertfordſhire*, we can hardly keep our Servants at Home on a Sabbath-Day, becauſe of the bad Example of others, who go ſhooting of Birds, or play at Bandy-wicket, Pitch and Chuck, Hooper's-Hide, Pat-Ball, *&c.* beſides which, our poor labouring People generally frequent Alehouſes on the Sabbath-Day, in Neglect of going to Church: This made a pious Miniſter ſay, O how well would God be ſerved, if the Sabbath and Holidays were obſerved, and how

would

would it bring down Graces and Bleſſings on us! But contrary to this, there is not a Day in the Week which God is ſo much offended on, as on Sundays, and Saints Days, by Drunkenneſs, Blaſphemy, Impiety, and other Wickedneſs; by Mens paſſing the Day in Taverns, in Alehouſes, and at other Places of Debauchery; by young Peoples playing, gaming, dancing, walking abroad, and by ſinful Converſations: This is contrary to the Law of the ſupreme Lawgiver, who ſays, *the Stranger within thy Gates*, that is, we muſt ſee that Gueſts and Lodgers under our Roof, do not prophane this ſacred Day. Is it to be wondered at then, if God is provoked againſt us, as he proteſts by the Prophet *Ezekiel: The Houſe of* Iſrael, that is to ſay, Chriſtians, *have provoked me to Anger. What have they done, O my God? They have prophaned my Holy Days, and therefore I have taken a Reſolution to pour my Fury upon them.* But I hope for a Reformation of theſe Evils in a little Time, ſince what follows was publiſhed in our *Northampton* News-Paper, on the 11th of *April*, 1748. *London:*

'It is ſaid a Bill will be brought into one of the Houſes of 'Parliament, for the better Obſervation of the Lord's Day, 'by obliging all Manner of Perſons to repair either to the 'Church or Meeting, and attend divine Service, once, at 'leaſt, on that Day, except kept away by apparent Ne'ceſſity. The Miniſter, Church-wardens, and other Officers 'of each Pariſh, and in large Pariſhes ſome few of the ſub'ſtantial Pariſhioners, beſides, alſo, the Teachers and Elders, 'or Heads, of each ſeparate Congregation, will be impower'd, 'and even compelled, to be inſtrumental in carrying this 'Law into Execution. The Forfeits to be paid by Houſe'keepers for themſelves, and thoſe in Family; when Servants 'offend, their Maſters to reimburſe themſelves out of their 'Wages; when Penſion-Poor offend, the Overſeers to do 'the ſame out of their Penſions.'

Of BLEEDING SHEEP *and* LAMBS, *for Curing them of the Staggers, Giddineſs, Overflowing of Blood, and for otherwiſe Curing them, and keeping them in Health.*

To cure the Staggers in Sheep or Lambs.

BEFORE I write my own Accounts on this Subject, I ſhall firſt recite what ſeveral ancient Authors write on *the ſame*, for giving my Readers the fuller Information of

this

this important Matter. The firſt Author ſays, this Diſeaſe is cauſed by Intemperateneſs of Air, either too hot, or too cold, and ſometimes Colds taken upon Heats, which if not timely remedied are apt to turn to a Surfeit.----- The Remedy, ſays he, is to take ſix Grains of Aſſa-fœtida, two Spoonfuls of the Juice of Sage, in a Quarter of a Pint of White-Wine Vinegar; give it a Sheep faſting, out of a Drenching-Horn, or other convenient Thing, as hot as may be, and bleed it.

A ſecond Receipt.----ANOTHER ancient Author ſays, that the Staggers is ingendred in Sheep by ſurfeiting on Oak Leaves, Hawthorn Leaves, and ſuch like, which Lambs, eſpecially, are very apt to do: It is a cold, corrupted Blood, or Phlegm, gathered together about the Brain, and indeed, ſays he, is ſuddenly mortal. The beſt Cure is to take Aſſa-fœtida, and diſſolve it in warm Water, and put the Quantity of Half a Spoonful into each Ear of the Sheep or Lamb, and it is a preſent Remedy.

A third Receipt.-----SAYS a third ancient Author, Take two Spoonfuls of the Juice of Rue, as much of Parſley, and a little Handful of Roſe-Leaves, boil them in a Pint of Ale, ſtrain it, and having let the Sheep blood, in the Temple-Veins, and under the Tongue, give it warm.

A fourth Receipt.----A FOURTH Author ſays, this Diſtemper he takes for a Sort of Meaſles, or Pox, attended with ſuch a Degree of Fever, as will not ſuffer any Breaking out in the Skin, for it is generally obſerved, that the Skin of ſuch a Sheep is much redder than any other Sheep, in any other Diſtemper. In which Caſe you are to bleed him, as you perceive him ſtagger, by cutting off the upper Part of his Ears, which is the moſt ready Way, and by bleeding him under the Eye immediately after, which forwards the Cure begun in the Cutting the Ears; for thereby the Head is immediately aſſiſted and they will ſoon recover. But as from the Beginning of the Diſtemper, to the Death of the Sheep, it is not more than five or ſix Minutes, ſo, a Shepherd, ſays he, ought to be very watchful, and ready to bleed him, as ſoon as the foregoing Symptoms appear. Some would ſuppoſe this Diſtemper to proceed from the Sheep's eating Penny-graſs, while others ſuppoſe it to be an Overflowing of Blood, from rank Diet.

A fifth Receipt.----SAYS a fifth Author, Take long Pepper, Liquorice, Anniſeed, Hemp-Seeds, and Honey, of each a Pennyworth; beat all theſe together, and put therein a Pottle of new Milk, and ſtir the Honey and it, with the

reſt, together, and thereof give to each Lamb, or Sheep, two Spoonfuls or ſomewhat more, lukewarm; and this will cure them.

A ſixth Receipt.----ANOTHER ancient Author calls this Diſeaſe the Blood, and gives us his Receipt, which he ſays is a timely Remedy for it.----There is a Sickneſs, ſays he, amongſt Sheep which is called the Blood, of which they oftentimes die ſuddenly. The Signs of the Sheep's Death are, that it will ſtand ſtill, and hang down its Head, and ſometimes quake: The Remedy is to rub him about his Head, and eſpecially about his Ears, and let him blood in the Eye-Vein; if he bleed well, he'll live; elſe kill him.

This Author's Account of Bleeding SHEEP; *and the Cures that may be performed on* SHEEP *and* LAMBS, *by this and other Means.*

A Hertfordſhire *Farmer's Practice of Bleeding his Store-Sheep twice a Year, to preſerve their Health.*

I MUST own, I do not know of any more than one Farmer that follows this Practice, and he does it out of a Senſe that Prevention is oftentimes better than Remedy, therefore duly obſerves to bleed his dry Wether Sheep twice a Year for their Sickneſs: The firſt Time he bleeds them is at the Beginning of *May*, becauſe after a long Winter, wherein Sheep have been kept on a ſhort Bite of Graſs, or on the poor Food of Straw Fodder, they now begin to meet with a full Bite of rank Graſs, which being full of Sap, and greedily fed on by hungry Sheep, they generally take into their Bodies ſo much Moiſture, as cauſes many of them to die through the Corruption, or Overflowing of the Blood, that turns to the Staggers, or Rot, or Red-water, or other Diſeaſes incident thereto. The ſecond Time of Bleeding dry, or Store Sheep is, as ſoon as the Stubbles are clear, after the Corn is got off; for now the Sheep may range the Field, and feed on that Graſs which grows on Baulks, or Linſeys, or Head Lands, or on the after Meath of *Lammas* Meadow Ground, or on the Weeds that grow among Corn, which generally gives them a full Bite; and as ſuch Feed is frim and ſappy, by the Autumn Shoot of it, it may ſtill ſubject Sheep to the Staggers, Red-water, and the like fatal Diſeaſes, if

not

not prevented in Time ; therefore this Farmer bleeds them, and the Method he takes to bleed them is what I am next to ſhew.----If a Sheep's Tail is a ſhort one, it ſhould not be cut off, or ſhortened, above Half an Inch, or an Inch at moſt; but if it is a long Tail, two or three Inches of its End may be ſo ſerved; but whether the Tail be a ſhort one, or a long one, it ſhould be cut off ſo, that the End of it may be always a little above the Hock of the Sheep; for if it is cut off below, or even with it, the Sheep in moving to and fro will be apt to flap it againſt this bony Part, make it bleed long, cauſe it to continue ſore, and give the Fly an Opportunity to pain the Sheep, by preventing the Wound healing for ſome Time. Now for the better ſecuring the Sheep againſt this Evil, ſome Shepherds twiſt a little Wool of the Tail with ſome Wool of the Rump, the Locks of both which he ties with a waxed End, becauſe the Wax will keep the Wool from ſlipping, and parting. Others with a Needle and Thread ſew the two twiſted Wools together, for preventing the Wound bleeding too much, for keeping it out of the Flies Way, and for cauſing it to heal the ſooner. Or a Sheep for the aforeſaid Reaſons may be blooded in the Ear, by ſlitting it with a Penknife, or cutting a Bit of it off. But take care not to cut the Tail of a Sheep when the Weather is very hot, for if you do, it may bleed to Death, unleſs it be ſtopt by tying, or otherwiſe.

Of the Difference between the Staggers and the Giddineſs in Sheep.----STAGGERS and Giddineſs in Sheep, by ſome is deemed two ſeveral Maladies, for that they proceed from two different Cauſes. Giddineſs makes a Sheep often turn round, from the Preſſure of one or more ſmall Bladders, that lie on the Top of its Brain, or by Means of Pain, occaſioned by the gnawing of Worms, or Maggots, that are bred and remain at, and about, the Bottom of a Sheep's Horns: But the Staggers generally proceed from a Plethory, or Superabundance of Blood, of which they ſometimes die ſuddenly; and a little before this happens, Sheep will droop, ſtand ſtill, hang down their Heads, and ſometimes quake, fall down, and ſtruggle for Life. Or take it as a neighbouring Sheep-dealer deſcribed it to me ; who ſays, that the Staggers cauſe a Sheep to go forward, and not turn round; ſome, he ſays, he has ſeen to puſh themſelves forward on their Knees on the Ground, which he thinks is ſolely occaſioned by the Blood. But he thinks that Giddineſs in Sheep is occaſioned by a Bladder of Water under the Fore-part of the Scull,

and is a ſmall one about the Bigneſs of a Hazle Nut, that will eat through the Scull in Time, therefore it makes a ſoft Place in the Part it lies under. A giddy Sheep, he ſays, always turns towards that Side on which the Bladder lies: For which Caſe obſerve the following Receipts.

Adam Speed's *Receipt for Giddineſs in a Sheep.*------THIS ancient Author will have it, that Giddineſs proceeds from the Blood; and therefore ſays this happens moſtly in hot Seaſons, through exceſſive Heat; to remedy it, ſays he, let him blood as ſoon as you perceive him to ſtagger and turn round, by ſlitting the Noſe Vein acroſs; then take a Handful of Baum, Rue and Mint, boil them in two Quarts of Small-beer, and give him a Pint at a Time, Morning and Evening.

The Receipt of J--- B----, *Gentleman, for the Giddineſs of a Sheep.*----THIS Diſtemper, ſays he, proceeds from a Bladder in their Heads, you ſhall find it ſoft under your Finger, and there you muſt cut it. For any other Pains or Giddineſs of the Head, theſe following Remedies are ſpecial good: Take the Juice of Ivy-Leaves, and put thereof into the Ear, and bind it, or cloſe it, ſo that it may not be caſt out; or the Juice of Wild Thyme ſtamped with Ale, ſtrained, and given him.

To cure Giddineſs in a Sheep; by this Author.----THIS Malady, when occaſioned by a Bladder, or Bladders, on the Brain, ſeldom befals any Sheep after two Years old; Lambs therefore and Tegs, Thaives and Sherugs, are moſtly liable to it: Now when this is the Caſe, or their Sculls are tender, an Artiſt may diſcover the Ail by the Feel of a Finger, and when it is ſo diſcovered, the laſt Remedy, though a deſperate one, is to take a Piece of the Scull out with a Penknife, about the Bigneſs of a Shilling, or Half-Crown. Begin with the End of the Penknife, and cut the Scull three Parts round, and heave the Bone up, but not break it; then take out the Bladder of Water, and put the Piece of Scull down in its Place, upon which lay two or three Bits of Linen Rag, by Way of a Bolſter, and a Plaiſter of Pitch over that; then tie Tape to both the Sheep's Horns, in ſuch a Manner as to keep the Plaiſter on tight; after this, keep the Sheep a Week in the Houſe, and the Wound will run a Matter, or Pus, but never ſhift the Plaiſter, nor dreſs it more; and one Sheep in two or three may chance to live and do well.

How to cure a Sheep of Worms, or Maggots, at the Bottom of its Horns; by this Author.----IF one could tell under which Horn theſe Reptiles lie, this Malady may be the eaſier cured,

cured, by blowing the Smoak of Tobacco, through the ſmall End of a Pipe, into the Ear of the Sheep, even, if Occaſion be, till the whole Pipe is thus blow'd out; and to force the Sheep to receive the Smoak, it muſt be laid on its Back. Others, when they perceive a Sheep giddy, or when it beats its Feet againſt the Ground, or by ſome other Sign, think it has Worms under its Horns; it then is high Time to ſearch and ſee if there be any ſoft or pappy Place about the Bottom of the Horn, and if ſuch a Place is found, cut a Hole there with a Penknife, and when the Sheep is thrown on its Back, blow the Smoak of Tobacco by the ſmall End, as I ſaid, of a Pipe, up its Noſtrils, two or three Times, and the Maggots, or Worms, will come tumbling out of them; then put into the Hole ſome Train Oil, and ſo far as the Oil goes, it will kill all the Maggots or Worms and heal the Part; elſe, if a Sheep in this Condition is neglected, theſe Vermin will eat into its Brain, and kill it. But for further illuſtrating this nice Caſe, I have to obſerve, that there are other Signs or Indications to know this Malady, eſpecially when it has increaſed into any great Degree of Malignity; for then it may be known by a thick Matter or Pus that runs out of the Sheep's Noſtrils, or is diſcharg'd by Sneezing, ſomewhat like the Condition of a glander'd Horſe; and when the Diſtemper is arrived to this Stage, ſome Sheep will ſneeze Grubs or Bugs, in great Numbers, like thoſe we call Sow-bugs, or Wood-lice, but not quite ſo big. It is true, that a Sheep may run at Noſe by means of catching Cold, but then the Pus is generally thin. When therefore thoſe Signs appear, feel for a ſoft Place at the Bottom of the Horn, cut it, blow Tobacco Smoak up the Noſtrils, and make uſe of Train-Oil, as I have before directed; for wherever theſe Worms, Maggots, Bugs, or Grubs, (call them what you pleaſe) are in ſome Quantity, there will be a ſoftiſh Place at the Bottom of the Horns, which may be cured if timely and rightly managed: But of this more when I write of ſuckling Houſe-Lambs. In the mean Time, I have further to obſerve here, that amongſt all the Books that I ever read on Sheep, none of their Authors have ſhewn this Caſe, although it affects great Numbers of theſe valuable Creatures, out of which few live, becauſe they do not underſtand how to apply a proper Remedy for it. My Day's-Man alone has ſaved, he thinks, Half a Score Sheep from dying by this very Means; and has ſeen as many ſaved by other Hands, for this is a ſure Operation, and never known by him to fail.

How a Sheep, by Accident, broke off one of its Horns, by which a Hole was made at its Bottom, out of which came a Grub, or Worm.----THIS Accident happened to one of my Neighbour's Sheep, as it was in a Fold, when ſome how or other it hung one of its Horns between the Sloat of a Hurdle, which left a Hole at the Bottom of it, out of which came a Grub or Worm. Now it was obſerved by its Owner, that this Sheep was always in a poor Condition, but after the Wound was healed this Sheep thrived apace, which made my Neighbour believe that many Sheep are kept from thriving, merely by the Pain and Torment that theſe Grubs and Worms occaſion.

How a Chiltern Farmer had ſeveral of his Sheep taken ill, in the Month of July, *with the round-about Staggers; and how they were cured.*-----THIS Farmer's Land lying about a Mile from *Gaddeſden*, is of a gravelly, chalky, and dry loamy Nature, is incloſed, and whereon he keeps many Store Sheep for folding and dreſſing it. Here it was in the Month of *July*, 1744, that this Farmer had ſeveral of his Store Sheep taken ill of the Staggers, which he diſcovered by ſeeing them turn round, upon which his Shepherd made no more to do then to rub, raiſe, and cut Part of the Eye-Vein, and immediately turn them up to walk where they would about the Field, and all did well. For about this Time of the Year, Sheep are more liable to come under this Malady of the Staggers, than at any other Time, becauſe of the groſs Feeding they now generally meet with. Thus this Farmer's Sheep came to be ſo, by Means of the Rankneſs of the Graſs they baited them in every Day; for when Showers of Rain fall in this Seaſon of the Year, they generally cauſe Clover to ſhoot apace, with a very luxuriant Sap, that is apt to increaſe Blood, and produce the Staggers. This was the Practice of this Shepherd, but another Shepherd is of a contrary Opinion, and acts otherwiſe, by taking the following Method:

The Method taken by a judicious Shepherd to find out the Ail of a Sheep, and to cure Sheep of the Staggers.------IF a Sheep is taken ill of the Staggers, by an Overflow of Blood, or otherwiſe, this Shepherd never bleeds it in the Eye-Vein, nor in any other Fore-part of a Sheep's Body; for he ſuppoſes, that when a Diſtemper lies in the Head of a Beaſt, the beſt Way of relieving it is to bleed a Sheep behind, to draw off that Blood from the Fore-part which may occaſion it; therefore when this is the Caſe, he cuts the Tail of the

Sheep

Sheep acroſs, within-ſide of the upper Part of it, if the Diſtemper happens in the Summer, the better to keep the Fly from the Wound, and then lets the Sheep go, without doing any Thing more to it; for in this Part a Sheep cannot bleed too much, if the Wound is not too deep. But if the Diſeaſe happens in Winter, he cuts off a Bit from the Sheep's Tail; for at this Time of Year the Fly's Danger is over, and if the Wound bleeds too much, he lays a Bit of Shoemakers End juſt above it, and it ſtops; this ſeldom fails of a Cure. Again, when a Sheep's Illneſs lies in its Hind-Part, he bleeds before; and to know when a Sheep is bad in its Loins, or its Thighs, or its Legs, a judicious Shepherd, before he applies a Remedy, makes the Sheep walk about, and if he finds it go ſtiff, and does not walk ſo well behind as it ſhould do, he then believes it has had ſome Hurt, or it has catch'd Cold; if hurt, it may be done by a Blow, or by Leaping, or Straining to get through a Hedge, or being courſed too hard by a Dog; in any of theſe Caſes he bleeds by the Eye-Vein, or cuts, or ſlits the Ear, in order to bring away the bruiſed Blood forward, from its original Part. For according to the Notion of this Shepherd, if a Sheep is bled before for an Illneſs in his Head, it may bring much Blood to the Part, that may ſtop and ſettle here, and do more Harm than Good, unleſs there be a great Evacuation of it indeed.

How a Shepherd ſaved ſeveral of his Maſter's Sheep from Dying by Frimneſs of Blood, and by Eating of Turnips.—He ſays, he has ſeen many Sheep briſk and playing, and yet all of a ſudden leap up, fall down and die, by means of an Overflowing of the Blood; to prevent which, there muſt be a very ſpeedy Remedy made uſe of; and for this Purpoſe this Shepherd always carries a Penknife about him, to cut the Eye-Vein croſs-ways, which, as I ſaid, he eaſily does, by firſt rubbing it well with his Thumb; for thus he raiſes and ſwells the Vein, like as a Cord does that of a Horſe or Cow. This Shepherd, whom I well know, for fear of his Maſter having Sheep choaked in Turnips, uſed to get up two or three Times a Night, and go each Time in the Dark Half a Mile to relieve a Sheep that might be taken ill, and bleed it on Occaſion, by Feeling, or Seeing.

An excellent Receipt to ſtop Bleeding in Sheep, or Lambs, or any other Cattle.---It is true, that our common Remedy is, if a Sheep or Lamb bleeds too much, to tie a Piece of Packthread, or better Shoe-maker's End, a little above the wounded Part of its Tail. But as a Sheep or Lamb may not

only

only bleed too much here, but alſo in ſeveral other Parts, by Accidents, or otherwiſe, in which Caſe, I here acquaint my Reader, that Horn-Shavings, ſuch as are ſold at the Horners, or Comb-makers, burnt to Aſhes, and applied to the wounded Part, will prove an excellent Remedy; or, in Caſe you cannot well come by Horn-Shavings, burn the Leather of an old Shoe to Aſhes, and apply them inſtead of the other. This was ſeveral Times proved by a Gentleman, that held a large Farm in his Hands, in the County of *Middleſex*, who kept Abundance of ſuckling Ewes for fatting Houſe-Lambs, and other Cattle, and aſſured me of the ſame.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who, having a Sheep taken giddy, while it was feeding on Turnips, thought it beſt to have it killed, and ſold by the Butcher.-----THIS Sheep was one of ſeventeen that were fatting in a Field of Turnips, and on the 22d Day of *March*, 1745, was taken giddy, and ſo giddy it was, that the Farmer would not ſtand tampering with it, but as it was a little meatiſh, had it killed by the Butcher and ſold. Now the Tops of the Turnips did this, for theſe rank, ſprouting Leaves, are oftentimes the Cauſe of Sheeps hoving, ſcouring, and turning giddy, through a Plethory of Blood; and it was this laſt Malady that ſeized the Sheep, notwithſtanding the Farmer, to my Knowledge, gave them Hay to feed on twice a Day, in order to dry up the Turnip Juice, or Water, in the Belly of the Beaſt, and ſo prevent its Damage. But of theſe three Evils I ſhall further diſcourſe, when I come to ſhew how to feed Sheep on Turnips or Rapes, without the Danger of hoving, ſcouring, or ſuffering by a Plethory of Blood; and next give you the Copy of a printed Receipt, from an old Author, who calls it,

A Remedy for the turning Diſeaſe in the Sheep, by an ancient Author.----THIS Diſtemper, ſays he, cauſes them to hold their Heads on one Side; if ſhe hold her Head on the right Side, you muſt ſtrike off the Horn on the left Side, for under the Horn there is a Worm; which you muſt anoint with Tar, then bind a Cloth on it, and the Sheep will recover.

A ſecond Receipt for a Sheep's Giddineſs; by an ancient Author.-----THIS happens, ſays he, moſtly in the hot Seaſon, through exceſſive Heat; to remedy it, let him blood as ſoon as you perceive him ſtagger and round, by ſlitting the Noſe-Vein acroſs; then take a Handful of Baum, Rue and Mint, boil them in two Quarts of Small-beer, and give him a Pint at a Time, Morning and Evening, ſucceſſively.

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A third Receipt of an ancient Author's, to cure Giddineſs in Sheep.----THIS Diſtemper, ſays he, by ſome called the Staggers, is occaſioned by Heat or Cold, and ſometimes by both, which contending in the Body for Maſtery, turn to a Surfeit; the Remedy for it is, ſix Grains of Aſſa-fœtida, two Spoonfuls of the Juice of Sage, and Half a Quartern of Wine Vinegar, heated together, and given a Sheep, as warm as it can be well endured, when he is faſting. This likewiſe, if you add two Spoonfuls of the Juice of Rue and Roſe-Leaves, letting the Sheep blood in the Temple-Veins, cures Giddineſs in the Head.

CHAP. V.

Of TURNIP SHEEP.

The great Advantage that Turnips are of to Farmers, for feeding Store-Sheep, and fatting others.

THE Turnip, I think, may be juſtly ſaid to be one of the moſt ſerviceable Plants in the Field, and the rather becauſe its Service is now ſo well known, that many Chiltern Farms have acquired the Reputation of being called Turnip Farms: And I think it is with great Reaſon, for that Turnip Crops give the Farmer no little Profit and Pleaſure, as they ſubſiſt his Horſes, Cows, Oxen, Sheep, Hogs, Rabbits, *&c.* which in ſome Counties, the ſandy ones of *Suffolk* and *Norfolk* eſpecially, is really done. But moſt of all the Value of Turnip Crops are proved by the Feed they yield to Sheep and Lambs, for that one Acre of Turnips, well planted, will feed more Cattle than ſeveral Acres of Meadow Graſs can in Winter; and what adds more to their Value, is, that they'll laſt, if ſown late, till the latter End of *April*, by which Sheep need loſe no Time in their feeding and fattening on them, becauſe when the Turnips are fed off, Rye, or Thetches, or Clover Graſs may ſucceed; and thus we Chiltern Farmers go on to feed our Flocks of Store or fatting Sheep all the Winter, and think that if we miſs having Turnip Crops, we loſe a double Profit; one by not feeding our Sheep with them; the other in loſing the

Dreſſing our Ground by the Dung and Stale of theſe moſt profitable Creatures: A Loſs that has almoſt undone many Farmers, who keeping large Flocks of Sheep, in dependence of obtaining a ſufficient Quantity of Turnips, for fattening and feeding their Sale and Store Sheep, in Winter; and having none take, their Sheep, in courſe, in an hard Winter, muſt many of them periſh by the Hunger Rot. Wherefore a Method of getting Crops of Turnips, in aſſurance againſt the Deſtruction of the Fly, and the Extremity of dry, hot Weather, muſt be of little Importance to know, and which I intend to publiſh, in ſome of my future Works of Huſbandry, that I am about to write, being twelve Monthly Books, to be intitled, *New Diſcoveries of Improvements in Huſbandry*, and are to contain Forty Cuts of new Inſtruments for increaſing Crops of Grain, Turnips, Rapes, and many other Sorts of Vegetables, in the quickeſt and cheapeſt Manner. In the mean while, for ſome Conſideration, I will ſend to any Perſon Receipts, that will anſwer my Pretenſions in keeping off the Fly, and ſecuring Crops of Turnips againſt Incidents of Weather. But notwithſtanding the great Uſe and Value this ſerviceable Plant, the Turnip, is of, there has not one Author wrote tolerable on Crops of Field Turnips, the late very ingenious Mr. *Jethro Tull* excepted, who indeed has performed a Maſter-piece in his Writing on the Turnip; but then even he has confined his Works to the Drill Huſbandry altogether; which being different from the common Practice of Chiltern Farmers, of getting Crops of this moſt valuable Root, in their inland Stony Fields, and alſo from the common Practice of ſome Vale Farmers; I ſhall therefore be a little particular in the Management of Turnip Crops, ſown in the broad-caſt Way, and in my Accounts of the Incidents that Turnip Crops, and the Sheep that feed on them, are liable to: Not but that the Drill Huſbandry, where it can be performed, exceeds all other Huſbandry whatſoever, for increaſing Crops of Corn, Turnips, Rapes, artificial Graſs, and many other Sorts of Vegetables, in the very quickeſt, cheapeſt, and moſt profitable Manner; ſince the ſingle, four-wheel, light, plain Drill-Plough, and the four-wheel double Drill-Plough have been lately invented, that ſave much Seed, much Manure, diſpatches Abundance of Work in a little Time, and gives the Farmer an Opportunity to ſow the ſame Field, without making a Fallow of it, for twenty or more Years together, and thus cauſes poor Land, by the Help of two dif-

ferent Sorts of Manure, ſown out of the Manure Hopper, to yield as plentiful Crops as the richeſt Land can in the common Way of ſowing them, provided that after the Seeds are thus ſown, by either of theſe Drill-Ploughs, the exquiſite two-wheel Horſe-Hoe, or Break, that was firſt invented and made in the Year 1747, be made uſe of to the interval Ground, between the Drills, at a proper Time of the Year; then though it be drawn by only two Horſes, and works ſeveral Hoes at a Time, it will hoe and clean ſix or ſeven Acres of interval Ground in one Day, and keep it in delicate Order, free of hurtful Weeds, even till Harveſt: Theſe being new improved Inſtruments, made not only upon Mr. *Tull's* Invention of Drill-Ploughs, and Horſe-Hoes, but are likewiſe an Improvement made upon all other Drill-Ploughs and Horſe-Hoes, or Breaks, whatſoever; and which I ſell and furniſh to any Perſon on a proper Order, as likewiſe the *Hertfordſhire* two-wheel double Plough, the drain Plough, the Ant-hill Plough, the turn-wreſt Plough, the late Patent Plough and others: As alſo the famous Parſnip-Apple Trees, Orange-Pear Trees, Black-Keroon-Cherry Trees, *&c. &c.* And I anſwer all Letters, provided they be franked, or Poſtage paid to my Houſe, at *Little Gaddeſden*, near *Hempſtead*, in *Hertfordſhire*, that ſtands Thirty Miles Diſtance from *London*.

When Sheep are to be drawn out of the Store Flock, for fatting them on Turnips.-----As ſoon as Harveſt is got in, we commonly draw out, and ſeparate, ſo many of our ſix-tooth'd and full-mouth'd Wether Sheep, from our Store-Flock, as we intend to fat for Sale; in order to which, we turn theſe Sheep, ſo ſelected, into our Stubbles, there to feed, and get ſome Fleſh on their Backs, againſt the Time that our Turnip Crops are ready to receive them; and here it is, that after theſe ſame Sheep have been worked hard the foregoing Part of the Summer, by perhaps feeding all that Time on the ſhort Bite of a Common, and by being folded every Night, they may now live at their Eaſe, and get meatiſh againſt Turnip Time, by eating the Graſs that grew from mowing Time on the Baulks of theſe incloſed Fields, and by feeding on the Weeds that come up amongſt the Corn. Here alſo may be turned into the Stubble any ſix-tooth'd barren Ewes, or full-mouth'd ones, in order to prepare them with the Wether Sheep, for their quicker and better fattening on Turnips; or you may do the ſame by four-toothed Wether Sheep, as ſome, but very few do, and

thoſe that do fat ſuch young Sheep, do it on Account of their meeting with a better Market than ordinary; for there be ſome particular Butchers in *London*, that are conſtantly furniſh'd with theſe Sort, to pleaſe their niceſt and beſt Cuſtomers, who grudge not a Half-penny a Pound, to give extraordinary, for ſuch young Mutton.

The Proceſs, now in Practice with Hertfordſhire *Farmers, for fatting their Sheep on Turnips.*-----THE prodigious Number of Sheep, fatted every Year on Turnips and Rapes ſhews the great Improvements that are made by ſowing Fields with their Seeds, but more eſpecially with thoſe of Turnips, as the Counties of *Cambridge*, *Suffolk*, *Norfolk*, *Eſſex*, and *Hertfordſhire*, &c. have truly experienced to their great Profit. Wherefore that Farmer whoſe Ground will admit of this Turnip Improvement, and does not endeavour to obtain it, may be juſtly accounted, what we call an Afternoon Farmer, or one that does not make the beſt of his Ground, as thoſe do who get full Crops of theſe ſerviceable Roots, by ſowing the Seed of them a little before and after *Midſummer*, and then the Turnips will be grown big enough by *Allhallontide* to turn Sheep into them: For at this Time of Year, or a little before it, our *Hertfordſhire* Farmers begin to put thoſe Sheep into their Turnip Fields, that have been feeding, for this Purpoſe, in the Stubble Ground, and generally take particular Care to dock, or cut off, a Bit of the Tail from each Sheep, about a Week before they thus turn them into their Turnips, by cutting ſo much off their Tail, as to leave the reſt of it but a Handful long, and do nothing to the Wound, becauſe at this Time of Year the Fly can do no Miſchief, and the Blood will ſtop in this Part of itſelf. Now one Reaſon why they dock their Sheep, is, that it makes their Bodies look ſhorter and plumper, than if they had all their Tail on, and therefore are thought to ſell the better at Market: Another Reaſon is, to prevent their ſuffering by an Overflow of Blood, which the rank Feed of Turnips is very apt to produce; for notwithſtanding this Precaution, many Sheep have died by ſuch a Plethory. But to begin with the Management of Sheep in Turnips: To this End, a Farmer provides himſelf with a ſufficient Number of Hurdles, nine Feet long each, that are to incloſe ſuch a Parcel of Turnips, as the Shepherd thinks the Sheep will eat, to the moſt Profit of his Maſter; which is to hurdle out no more, at a Time, than they will eat freſh, or almoſt, or quite up; for if they were to have too large a Parcel given them

them at a Time, they would bite and ſcoop the upper Part of many, and leave the reſt to damage. Here then they are to feed on a Parcel of hurdled-out, freſh Turnips, till they have eat them, which they will do by their Orts being picked up, as they are now in a hungry Condition, at their firſt putting in. When this is done, the Sheep muſt be removed into ſuch another like Parcel of hurdled-out, freſh Turnips, at the contrary End of the ſame Field, and when they have fed theſe off, they muſt be removed a third Time, to another freſh Parcel, next where they firſt began, and ſo on, feeding alternately at one and the other Side of the Field, till all the Turnips are eaten off. If ſixty Sheep are fatting, we remove the Hurdles once a Week; if an hundred Sheep are fatting, twice a Week. Thus the fatting Sheep will go on feeding and eating off the Turnips till near *Chriſtmas*, without making much Orts. Then, or before, it is, that thoſe Store Sheep, that went into the Stubble Field, after the fatting Sheep had left them, muſt be brought into the Turnip Field, to follow and eat up the Orts of the fatting Sheep; and when they have done it at one End of the Field, they muſt be removed to the other End, and ſo on, following the fatting Sheep, till all the Turnips are eaten off. For after the fatting Sheep have been in the Field till near *Chriſtmas*, they'll become dainty, and refuſe the picked-up Orts, which the Store Sheep will be glad of. By the Time of *Chriſtmas* it is a Chance if the firſt forward Sheep, in Fleſh, are not fat enough to go off and ſell at Market; for this often happens to be the Caſe. Then if the Farmer has Plenty of Meat, the remaining Sheep will have the better Feed, and be full fat by *Candlemas*, or in a Week or two after; for moſt Turnip Sheep go off fatted about this Time of Year, for giving me and other Farmers an Opportunity to give the ſame Ground only one Ploughing, and harrow in Wheat or Barley; and we often have fine Crops, of both Grains, by this very Means, for a full Crop of Turnips will hold a Parcel of Sheep feeding long enough for their dreſſing and enriching the Ground, by their Dung and Stale, by which, with an Addition of a thin Coat of Stable Muck, laid over the Turnip-Ground, I had moſt admired Crops of Wheat and Barley, in the Year 1747, notwithſtanding I ſowed one of my Fields with Wheat Seed, on the 20th Day of *March*, on only one Ploughing and Harrowing in the Seed, becauſe my Turnips were not eaten off ſoon enough to do it before: For in this Management the Drill Huſbandry could not be admitted,

admitted, as the Surface is caked by the Tread of the Sheep, nor would Time allow ſo many Ploughings, as was neceſſary to bring the Ground into a Tilth fine enough for drilling it. As to fattening of Sheep on Cale or Rape-Plants, as yet it is very little practiſed in *Hertfordſhire*, becauſe theſe will not grow ſo well in a dry hilly Country, as ours is, as they will on flat, wettiſh Grounds; therefore in *Lincolnſhire*, in the Iſle of *Ely*, and in ſuch Places, Cole, or Rapes will grow in a great Degree of Rankneſs, and feed Sheep fat in a little Time, but its Seed gives their great pole Sheep a rankiſh Taſte; and as they go into their Cole or Rape Grounds about *Michaelmas* Time, they generally come out fat, and are ſold at *London*, before our Sheep can be fat for Sale, in our Turnip Grounds. This is a Specimen of our Turnip Management, which was altogether unknown to our ancient Authors, or elſe one of them, that wrote in the Year 1672, would have been a little more particular than he is, in the following Account.

To draw Sheep, and to ſever them in divers Parts.---SAYS this ancient Author, when a Graſier hath many Sheep in his Paſtures, it will be convenient for him to have a Sheep-fold made with a good Hedge, or a Pale, the which will eaſily receive all his Sheep, that go in one Paſture, in a dry Place, and adjoining to the End of the ſame: Let him make another little Fold, that will contain ninety Sheep or more; and both theſe Folds muſt have either of them a Gate into either Paſture, and at the End of the Fold, let him make another little Fold, that will receive forty Sheep or more, and between every Fold a Gate; and when the Sheep are in the great Fold, let forty of them, or thereabouts come into the middle Fold, and ſtake the Gate, and then let the Shepherd turn them, and look on every Side, and if he find any Sheep that needeth any Help, or Cure, for any Cauſe, take that Sheep with his Hook, and put him into the little Fold; and when that he hath taken all that need any Curing, then let him put the other into whether Paſture he pleaſes; and let as many in of the great Fold, and take as many in as need Handling, and put them into the little Fold; and thus go them all over till he has done; and then let him melt Greaſe, and handle all thoſe that he hath drawn, and then ſhall the great Flock not be tarried, and kept from their Meat; and when he hath cured them, let him put them into their Paſture.

Of

Of the Diſeaſes that Sheep are ſubject to, while they feed to fat on Turnips.------FIRST, Sheep are not very apt to hove, while they feed on Turnips, till their ſprouting Time, and thoſe that are leaſt ſubject to it are fatting Sheep, becauſe, as theſe are always in Plenty of Meat, they do not feed ſo faſt and voracious, as to hove by their Feeding on Turnips: Beſides, they have the leſs Occaſion to come under this Misfortune, as the Sap of the Turnip Leaves are in a great Degree ſpent and deadned about *Allhallontide*, by their former luſh, frim Growth, when the Sheep is turned into them. But many fat Sheep have died by the Red-water while they are fatting on Turnips, becauſe the Turnip is ſo watery a Plant, as to load the Body of the Creature with their Juice, in ſo plentiful a Manner, as to overcome the Blood, by its breaking through its Texture, and turning its balſamick Part into a thin, aqueous Conſiſtence, which leſſening by Degrees the vital Part of the Blood, brings on, in Time, the Breed of the Red-water, and kills the Sheep. Hence it is plain, that the deſtructive Red-water is bred by too moiſt a Food, and therefore a contrary dry Food, muſt neceſſarily be given to Sheep, to prevent it; therefore Farmers have Sheep-Racks, ſtanding in the ſame Field where their Sheep are feeding on Turnips, in which they give them Hay, or Peaſe-ſtraw, *&c.* Night and Morning; and the Peaſe-ſtraw, which is the beſt Sort of Straw, of all others, for Sheep, being of a dry, ſpungy, huſky Nature, is the more apropos, to prevent the Breed of the Red-water. Again, Fatting Sheep are very ſubject to ſuffer by an Overflow of Blood, while they are feeding on Turnips; for, as Turnips are a rank, fatting Food, they are apt to breed a rank Blood, and ſuch an Overflow of it, that if a Shepherd is not Maſter of good Judgment, and quick enough to bleed Sheep preſently after the Diſeaſe is diſcerned by him, it dies. But on theſe I ſhall enlarge further in my third Book.

Sheep kept on Fatting, by feeding them with dry Meat, becauſe Turnips were ſpoiled by Froſt.------IN the great froſty Seaſon of 1739-40, a Butcher-Farmer, near me, having a Parcel of Sheep fatting on Turnips, they had like to have been made lean ones, had not proper Meaſures been taken, by him, to prevent it; for in the Month of *January*, when this hard Froſt ſeemed to be in its greateſt Violence, it rotted moſt of the Field Turnips, to that Degree, as to make them like Poulch, and ſtink like Carrion; which obliged the Butcher-Farmer, to feed thoſe ſame Sheep of his with Peaſe,

in

in a Trough, and with fine Hay beſides, that were before fatting altogether upon Turnips; for as Turnips are good for little after they have been thoroughly frozen, and the Sheep now loathing them ſo much, as entirely to refuſe them, he was obliged to feed them with ſomething elſe; and as Peaſe and fine Hay, are dry hearty Meat, the Sheep went on feeding and fatting on them to Profit, with their having near them what Water they would drink.

Sheep ſickened and died for Want of good Management, while they were fatting in a Turnip Field for Sale.------ANOTHER Farmer, whoſe Ground, I think, joined the Butcher's, was ſo ignorantly covetous, that he gave no dry Meat to thoſe fatting Sheep of his, while they were feeding and fatting on Turnips in the ſame hard Froſt, notwithſtanding many of them were rotted and ſpoiled by it; and thoſe Turnips that were chiefly in this Condition, were thoſe that were ſown the moſt forward; the Conſequence of this was, that many of his fatting Sheep ſickened, pined, and died. Hence it's obvious, how neceſſary that Sort of dry Meat muſt be to ſuch Sheep, not only in hard Froſts, but alſo at all other Times, while they are fatting on Turnips, that will beſt preſerve them from the Red-water, Overflowing of the Blood, from ſickening, and from hoving, and dying: Such a Secret I am Maſter of, and that will not only do this, but will alſo very much help to carry on their Fatting, with great Expedition, as I intend to make known in my third Book; for, for Want of a right Management of their Sheep, in ſuch Extremities, of froſty and ſnowy Weather, after ſuch a hard Froſt, when the Thaw comes, it damages the Turnip ſo, as to make the Sheep ſick and die; and for want of good Management, in this hard Froſt, great Numbers of Sheep were loſt, that otherwiſe would have lived.

Sheep fatted in Vales, with Peaſe or Beans.--- MANY Farmers, in Vales, that have not Turnips nor Rapes, to fat their Sheep with in Winter, have fatted them with a Mixture of Hog-peaſe, or Horſe-beans, in Troughs or Bins, with Hay, and Water, beſides, if they'll drink it; but they do better that fat them with clear Peaſe and Hay: However, as Vale Farmers run moſtly on Beans, their Sheep are generally fatted with clear Beans, and Hay; two Buſhels, or three, given in Order, will fat a Sheep with the Help of Hay and Water; and when they are given in a Bin, like that out of which Pigeons feed, it prevents their ſullying and daubing their Meat, with their dirty Feet, and cauſes them to fat

much

much the ſooner. Others turn their Sheep to a Bean-Stack, and there let them eat what they can get, thinking they fat here in the beſt Manner, and what Corn the Sheep ſcatter out on the Ground, the Swine eat. And many Vale Farmers fat their Sheep, eſpecially thoſe they think are touched with the Rot, and ſay, that theſe Sort of Sheep, in which the Rot has begun, will fat ſo quick on Beans, in this Manner, as to ſtand them in no more Charge, than three or four Shillings a-piece.

The Method practiſed by a Hertfordſhire *Farmer, to enrich his chalky Earth, by feeding his fatting Sheep, and his Store-Sheep, at one and the ſame Time, on Turnips, and for preparing the ſame for a Crop of Wheat to grow on it, the ſame Year.*--THIS Farmer renting, among others, an incloſed Field, whoſe Soil is a whitiſh, or chalky Loam, which being a perfect dry Earth, he thought it entirely good Management to feed off his Turnips very early with his fatting and Store Sheep, in order to ſow Wheat on the ſame Land the ſame Year; and to do this in a Huſband-like Manner, he began with feeding his Trunips off, by two Folds, in the Month of *October*, one for his fatting Sheep, the other for his Store Sheep; the fatting Sheep went on firſt, feeding on a freſh Parcel of Turnips every Day, by folding out only enough for them to eat in that Time; and if the Turnips are ſmall ones, and they be pulled up by the Hands, the Sheep will near eat them up, but if they be large, they will not; then the Store-Sheep, which were ſix Times more in Number than the fatting Sheep, followed in another Fold, which was ſhifted every Day, as well as that made uſe of for the fatting Sheep, and in this Fold his Store Sheep eat up all the Orts that the fatting Sheep left; and thus he daily proceeded, feeding his fatting Sheep, and his Store Sheep with Turnips, till they had eat up all that grew in the Field; by which excellent Method he double dreſſed his Land, and brought it into ſuch Heart, as made of this naturally poor, chalky Ground, a rich Soil, for ſowing Wheat thereon the ſame Year, as this Farmer did; for in ſuch a dry Earth we have full Liberty to ſow Wheat on it, till the latter End of *February*; and what likewiſe deſerves regarding in this Turnip Management, is, that this huſky, dry, ſhort, chalky Earth, agrees better with Fold-Dreſſing, than with any other Dreſſing whatſoever.

Sheep fatted on Turnips, and ſold at a very great Price.--WITHIN a few Miles of the Town of *Watford*, in the

County of *Hertford*, lives a Perſon that rents ſeveral large, incloſed Fields, conſiſting of a gravelly loamy Soil, which are always in the greateſt Heart; for as he keeps one, or two Waggons conſtantly travelling, to and from *London*, with the Fore-Carriage of Sacks of Meal, and Back-Carriage of Soot, Aſhes, and other Dreſſing and Luggage, he has an Opportunity, beyond moſt others, of enriching his Land by them, and accordingly he does it, to that Degree of Perfection, as makes him ſeldom ever fail of having the beſt Crops of Turnips, for fatting Sheep with; the Truth of which was proved in the Year 1747, when he fatted ſeventeen Score of very large Sheep in his Turnip Fields, that were ſo fat by *Candlemas*, as invited a rich, *London* Sheep-Dealer, and Carcaſs Saleſman, to view them, with an Intent to buy them all; and, as I am informed, upon his firſt Sight of them, he bid five and thirty Shillings a-piece, for two Hundred of them, but the Parties not agreeing to this, the whole Number is ſaid to be ſold, to this Sheep-Dealer, for five hundred and fifty Pounds; for theſe Sheep were ſo fat, and of ſo large a Sort, that their very Fleeces were ſuppoſed to weigh ſix Pounds a-piece. Nor is this great Price to be much wondered at, ſince it has been known, that in a dear Time, when Mutton has ſold very well, ſome Sheep have fetched eight and thirty Shillings a-piece. Hence, I am to obſerve, that if thoſe Sheep, which are to be fatted on Turnips, are not a quarter fat, before they are put into them, it is to little Purpoſe, becauſe otherwiſe they'll be too long getting Fleſh: But of this more hereafter.

CHAP. VI.

Of Folding SHEEP.

Of the great Service that Folding Sheep is of to all Farmers, that thus make uſe of them.

IN this Creature may appear the wonderful Wiſdom and Goodneſs of the Omnipotent God, in creating a Beaſt, that is of the moſt extenſive Service to Mankind of all others, and not only to particular Perſons, but to a Nation in general; for that its tame Nature exceeds all other Beaſts of the Field,

Field, its Wool is the Cloathing and Preſervation of our Bodies, againſt all Weather, and againſt many Diſeaſes, its Pelt or Skin of vaſt Service for our Records, and other neceſſary Occaſions, its Fleſh the beſt of Meat, its Hoofs, Horns, Dung, and Stale, of moſt exquiſite Value, for fertilizing our Land; its Body by its Lightneſs, ſo fitted for the Farmer's Service, that it eaſily, and ſafely tranſports its Dreſſing into wet, boggy Lands, where neither Carriage, nor Horſe can be admitted, without damaging them; and what is alſo very beneficial, its Dung and Stale agree with moſt Sorts of Land, and I can ſay, what no Author ever yet obſerved, the very Tread of Sheep is of great Importance, in ſeveral Branches of Huſbandry, as I intend to make known in ſome of my publick Works. What would thoſe Farmers do to dreſs their Land, that live too far from *London*, or other City, or Town, if it was not for Sheep-Dreſſing? Or what could thoſe poor Farmers do, that have not wherewithal to buy Hand-Dreſſing, for manuring their Land, if it was not for Sheep-Folding? In ſhort, the Dreſſing of Land, by Folding of Sheep, is one main Support of the Country, as it is next to the Land itſelf, and the Ploughing and Sowing of it, the chief Means of our plentiful Crops of Grain and Graſſes.

The Management of a careful, diligent Shepherd, in the Folding of his Sheep, in Vale, or Chiltern Lands.--SUMMER Folding of Sheep, as I ſaid, agrees with moſt Sorts of Earth in *Great Britain*, whether they be of the Vale or Chiltern Sort, and therefore it is of the greateſt Conſequence to Farmers to make uſe of it in the moſt advantageous Manner. In Vales, in Summer-Time, their Sheep ſeldom have any other Meat but what they can get in their Fallow-Fields, in Lanes, and on Commons, which though in long, hot, dry Seaſons, their Graſs is very ſhort, yet as their Ground is commonly of the richeſt Soil in the Kingdom, their Graſs has a Spirit in it, of the moſt feeding, fattening Nature, inſomuch that with only ſuch a Bite of Graſs, they'll carry on their Folding, with large Flocks, throughout a Summer, and do it ſo well, at once folding over their Ground, that they ſeldom fail of having the largeſt Crops of Grain by it. But in Chiltern Land, we take a different Method, in ſeveral Reſpects, from their neceſſitous Vale Way of doing it, and that is by keeping our Flocks In our incloſed Fallow Field, to eat and keep down the Growth of Weeds; and here in ſome large incloſed Farms, the Sheep get near a fourth Part of their Living, for as ſoon as the Sheep are let out of their

Fold, we drive them into an incloſed Fallow Field, there to feed till about Two or Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, then bring them into a Field of Clover, or of Trefoil, or of Reygraſs, where they ſtay eating till Night, when we put them into the Fold, which we every Day ſhift on a freſh Piece of Ground; or if there be not Meat enough for them in the Fallow Fields, we drive them to a Common, or about Lanes, to feed, till Baiting-time, on Clover, Trefoil, or Reygraſs; or in caſe we have no artificial Graſs for them, we generally have green Thetches, ſown on Purpoſe to bait them in; upon any of which green Meats, we commonly feed them till they get a Bellyful, if a Bellyful is to be got; for, without a Bellyful, their Dung and Stale will prove a poor Dreſſing, and, very probably, deceive the Farmer of his expected good Crop of Grain. But this is not all, for if a Shepherd is a careful and diligent one, he'll fold his Sheep in ſuch a Manner, as to do the Ground much Service, and yet not hurt his Sheep. To anſwer this, he muſt not fold them in a wet Time, on any Ground, eſpecially in Vale, or wet, Chiltern Ground, becauſe this Sort being naturally wet, it is the ſooner made ſo, and then the Sheep will make Holes in it by the Tread of their Feet, that will let in the rainy Water, and ſour it, and greatly damage it: So in drier, Chiltern Lands, a Shepherd ſhould be very cautious of folding Sheep in wet Weather, for tho' the Damage of folding them here, is not quite of that pernicious Conſequence, as it is in Vales, yet it may hurt both Ground and Sheep. Again, it ſometimes happens, that, on an Evening, the Weather may appear fine and clear, and yet heavy Rains may fall in the Night, to the Prejudice of both Ground and Sheep: In this Caſe, a good Shepherd ought to get up in the Night-time, and let his Sheep out of the Fold, for avoiding that Miſchief which might attend their being confined in ſuch Weather. A Shepherd, that is now working for me, is ſo careful a Man, that he has many Times in a Year, roſe out of his Bed, to let his Flock out of the Fold, for preventing this Sort of Damage; a Damage, that ſometimes may do a Flock more Harm, in one Night's Time, than they may recover in many Days, if at all; for it ſubjects Sheep to catch ſuch a Cold, that may bring them under the Gripes or Colick, Fever, and Loſs of Appetite, &c. &c. and alſo be the Means of breeding the Red-water, if not the Pelt-Rot. And if the true Reaſon of ſome Diſtempers in Sheep, were known,

known, I don't ſuppoſe, but that ſuch ill Management of a Flock's being cloſely confined, in a Fold or Pen, a whole Night, while great Rains fall on them, would prove the very efficient Cauſe of them.

A ſecond Account by this Author, for folding Sheep to the greateſt Advantage in Vale or Chiltern Countries.---As Vale Land is generally of a richer Sort than poor or Chiltern Land, it does not require to be folded ſo thick as that; therefore, where eight Hurdles in each Square, thirty-two in all, are made uſe of in a Chiltern Country, in Vales, they add four or more, for the ſame Number of Sheep, and ſet their Fold in a long Square; becauſe their Ridge, Half-Acre, and whole Lands, lie in ſuch Form. In the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, they never begin Folding till *April*, on their fallow Common-Field Land, and continue it only till about *Allhollantide*, without feeding their Sheep with any dry Meat in the Fold; but in dry, Chiltern, incloſed Land, many Farmers fold all the Winter as well as Summer: And ſo univerſal a Dreſſing is the Sheep-Fold, that no Sort of Dung, nor Manure, exceeds it, conſidering its ſerviceable Uſes in the ſeveral Shapes we Farmers employ it in. But above all, it is of the greateſt Service to the Vale Farmer; for by it, and the Aſſiſtance of the Stable, the Farm-Yard, the Cow-Houſe, the Hog-Sty, and the Pigeon-Houſe Dung, Thouſands of them carry on their Vale Farming, without being at a Halfpenny Charge in buying any auxiliary Dreſſings and Manures. It is true, that the Vale Farmer cannot carry on a Winter-Folding in the Field, as the Chiltern Farmer can; yet, even in Winter, his Sheep can make rich Dung of his Straw, in the Farm-Yard, or in ſome other Place; and this in large Quantities, for dreſſing his Barley-Land. Again, the Vale Farmer enjoys a Compenſation for being deprived of a Winter Fold, by the natural Richneſs of his Ground; which exceeds in Goodneſs, as I ſaid, moſt, or all, our Chiltern Land; and therefore they commonly have the biggeſt Crops of Grain at the leaſt Expence. We Chiltern Farmers only outdo them by having thoſe Crops in our incloſed Fields, which they cannot have in their open ones, as Turnips and artificial Graſſes, *&c.*

The Example of a notable Chiltern Farmer, who bought in Lambs in Winter, for making folding Sheep of them the following Summer.---I KNOW a Farmer in our Chiltern Country, that rents a Farm about ſeventy or eighty Pounds a Year, conſiſting chiefly of gravelly, chalky, and dry loamy

Soils, that lies ſome of it in open Fields, and ſome of it in Incloſures, whereon, with the Help of a Common, he keeps about three hundred Wether Sheep; and his Way of making them anſwer to the greateſt Profit is, by buying in Lambs, either at *Michaelmas*, or at *Allhollantide*, or at *Candlemas*. Thoſe that he buys in at *Michaelmas* or *Allhollantide*, he takes Care that they be forward, grown, ſtout Lambs, for their being the better able to eat Straw, and withſtand the Severity of hard Winter Weather, well knowing that a poor Lamb will pine, and be ſtunted, before they'll eat Straw, and withſtand the Severity of hard Winter Weather; and if a Lamb falls away, and is ſtunted the firſt Year, he ſeldom makes a good Sheep afterwards. It is for this Reaſon, that this notable Farmer is ſeldom or never without a Crop of Turnips provided for this Purpoſe, wherewith to feed his new-bought-in Lambs all the Winter and Spring Seaſon; and in Caſe deep Snows, or other hard Weather happens, he then brings his Lambs into his Yard, and feeds them with Straw every Night, and, in the Day-time, he lets them ſcratch among his Turnips; and if they are ſtrong and hearty, they'll work hard and get a Bite, when a Wether Lamb will go without either of them, and thus ſtarve and die: But when ſtrong, well-grown Lambs feed on Turnips in the Day-time, and on Straw at Night, they'll thrive and grow even in Winter and in the Spring, and be the ſooner ready to become folding Sheep the very next Summer; becauſe ſuch their dry Meat agrees well with the watery Turnip, and the Turnip with Straw; for this Farmer hardly is ever known to give theſe forward bought-in Lambs any Hay, which obliges them to eat Straw. And now I am mentioning Straw, I have to obſerve to my Reader, that, in my Opinion, many Farmers are wrong in giving their Lambs Straw, as it firſt comes out of the Barn after Thraſhing; becauſe, in this Condition, it is rather too hard for their tender Mouths, and, conſequently, in ſome Degree, diſcourages them from eating enough of it to do them good; for, at beſt, a Lamb, the firſt Year, does not care to feed on Straw: Therefore, whether it be Wheat, Barley, Oat, or Peaſe-Straw, Thetch-Straw, or Bean-Straw, the three firſt Sorts in particular ought to be thraſh'd over a ſecond Time, to ſoften it, and fit it the better for inviting the Lambs to eat it with a willing Appetite. I am ſenſible, that it is the Practice of ſome good Huſbandmen, after their Wheat-Straw is thraſhed, to make a Cock

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or Mow of it in their Barn, or abroad, in order to magazine and keep it in Store till a leiſure Time happens to thraſh it over-again, for making it the more tender, that their Cows (the younger Sort eſpecially) may eat it agreeably eaſy; and yet not regard doing the ſame for their Lambs and young Sheep. Wheat-Straw is the hardeſt of Straw, and if it is not doubly thraſhed, it is ſomewhat unfit for Lambs and Sheeps eating it; for, at beſt, it is the Straw they leaſt love, and what they do eat of it, is chiefly its Knots: And as to thoſe Lambs he buys in at *Candlemas*, it is a Time when Graſs and Turnips are, for the moſt Part, eaten off by Cattle, or rotted by the Froſt: In this Caſe, ſuch late bought-in Lambs ſhould have the beſt of Hay given them, if not Peaſe or Bran beſides, in a Trough, to keep them in good Order againſt Summer-Folding. I have alſo further to obſerve, that, as all Lambs generally ſhift, and get two broad Teeth between *Chriſtmas* and *Midſummer*, it muſt go the harder with many of them, to feed on the Bite of very ſhort Graſs, or to feed on Straw in the Spring-Time; therefore Hay is the more neceſſary to accompany Turnips or Graſs at this Seaſon, if a Perſon would have his Lambs kept in good Fleſh and Heart, for a Summer-Folding; for a hearty Sheep will feed heartily, and get a Bellyful, where a little, poor, ſtunted one, muſt go without it, becauſe a ſtout Sheep will certainly beat and puſh away its inferior, eat the better Meal, and ſtale and dung the more, to the greater enriching of the Ground they are folded on. Thus, by his buying in Lambs before and after Winter, and folding them as Sheep, and fatting them afterwards. This Farmer, as well as others that do the ſame, get ſometimes more by their Sheep, than by their Corn; therefore, that Author, that calculated, and ſaid, without Exception, that ſowing of artificial Graſs, and eating by Sheep, the Graſs is as much worth as their Dung, is wrong; for as theſe Graſſes are commonly ſown only on that Ground, that would otherwiſe lie fallow, it does not deſerve to be called a Loſs, but a Profit.

The Folding SHEEP *in Winter.*

The great Benefit accruing to Chiltern Farmers, by their folding Sheep in Winter.

IT is true, that Spring and Autumn Folding of Sheep in Vales and Chiltern Countries, generally ends about *All-hollantide*, becauſe the Weather, by this Time, oftentimes comes in ſo hard, as to make it not worth while to carry it on longer, unleſs we can give the Sheep ſuch a plentiful Feed as to enable them to withſtand the Severity of it. This, indeed, few pretend to do in Vale, wet Grounds, becauſe as the dreſſing Ground with Sheep's Dung, is but a cold, thin Sort of Dreſſing, it will not agree with their Land in the Winter Seaſon; for if Sheep were confined here in a Fold, at this Time of Year, they would ſtolch the Ground, daub their Feet and Bodies, catch cold, and, in ſhort, do the Land and them more Harm than Good. But the Caſe is otherwiſe in moſt Parts of *Hertfordſhire*, and other Chiltern Countries, where our Soil is of a ſandy, gravelly, chalky, and of a dry, loamy Nature; for theſe Conveniencies give us Chiltern Farmers a valuable Opportunity to fold our Fields almoſt throughout a mild, dryiſh Winter. But to do this, Straw alone will not anſwer; there muſt be a plentiful Proviſion made of proper Food, by getting a ſufficient Quantity of it ready for feeding Sheep with it all the Winter and Spring; accordingly we, in Summer, ſow as many of our incloſed Fields, as we can ſpare, with Turnip-Seed for this Purpoſe; and having Crops of this moſt ſerviceable Root, our Shepherds ſhift their Folds every Night on a freſh Parcel of them, and, in the Morning, bring the Sheep into the Straw-Yard, for to feed and bait them here for three or four Hours; at the End of which, he drives them into the Fields, or on a Common, to graze and pick up what Meat they can find againſt Night, when they are folded again: Thus we procced folding our Store-Sheep, Night after Night, all the Winter, except in ſnowy and rainy Weather. This they cannot do but in few Vale Grounds, becauſe they dare not ſow Turnips on their ridge, wet, black, loamy, Vale Lands; it is true, they may get Crops of Turnips on them, (if their Earth is not too rich, for if it is, the Turnip will run into Leaf, and not apple;) but what

will

will be the Conſequence of it? It will, inſtead of improving their Land, ſpoil it, and this for ſeveral Years together afterwards; becauſe, although they may draw their Turnips, and feed their Sheep dry with them on Meadow Ground, yet the Holes that the Turnips leave behind them, will ſo lodge the Waters, as to ſour their Land, breed Weeds, and much leſſen ſeveral of their Crops of Grain, that preſently ſucceed ſuch their Turnip Crops; whereas, by our occupying dry, chiltern Land, we have an Opportunity to improve it, by Turnips, in a high Degree, and this by more than one Sort of Management of Turnip Crops. I ſaid before, that we ſhift our Fold every Night, to give our Store-Sheep freſh Bites of Turnips; but then it may be aſked, what we do with the offal Turnips, or thoſe Orts or Pieces left uneat by them? To this I anſwer, that, after we have brought our Sheep into the Straw-Yard, and turn'd them to graze afterwards into the Fields, we bring them, in the Afternoon, into the Turnip-Field, and there let them feed on theſe offal Pieces of Turnips, that are pick'd up on Purpoſe for them, till Night, that we fold them on more freſh Turnips; and ſo on, till a whole Field is eaten up. This is one Way of double-dreſſing the Ground, by the Feed of Store-Sheep on Turnips: But the following Method is another Way of doing it. Where Sheep are to be fatted on Turnips for Sale, many of our moſt judicious, diligent Farmers, feed their Store-Sheep with them, as well as their fatting Sheep in the ſame Field, and thereby double-dreſs their Land for Grain; for, as the fatting Sheep advance, in feeding openly on a freſh Bite of Turnips, the Store-Sheep follow, by being every Night confined in a Fold, on a Parcel of their Orts, that are duly pick'd up for them. Again, as Turnips ſeldom laſt till Trefoil, or Clover-Graſs, is grown high enough to become a Feed for their Sheep, in the Spring-time of the Year, many of our Chiltern Farmers, make a prudential, timely Proviſion, for feeding their Sheep after their Turnip-Crops are eaten off; and this we do by ſowing Rye in *Auguſt*, that it may get an early Head for feeding Sheep when Turnips are gone; and this it may do, if a right Management attend the Crops: To this End, I will ſuppoſe the Turnip-Crops laſt throughout *March*, and that the Rye will be fit to turn Sheep into in *April*; and when the Sheep have done feeding here, the Trefoil, or Clover, may be ready for baiting them, or the Winter Thetches that were ſown about *Michaelmas*, may come in

to be fed by Store-Sheep, the latter End of *April*, or the Beginning of *May*, and ſo on. Sheep may be fed and folded, by ſuch Feedings, all a mild, dryiſh Winter and Spring, till Summer comes, for giving our Farmers an Opportunity to feed ſuch our Sheep then, on our Fallow Grounds or on Commons, for carrying on the folding, and dreſſing our Plow'd Lands. Thus, all the Year, to the ſaving of much Expence in buying Hand-Dreſſings, and bringing them home from conſiderable Diſtances, we carry on the Folding of our Sheep: But if Turnips, Rye, Thetches, Trefoil, Reygraſs, or Clover, happen to be a ſcanty Crop in the Spring-time, we then give our Store-Sheep ſome Hay every Night in the Fold, to compenſate the Loſs, and make up this Deficiency, or Want of a Bellyful of Turnips, Rye, Thetches, Reygraſs, or Clover, or Cole, elſe it may occaſion the Death of many of them; for as, in the Spring-time, the Ground is commonly cold and wettiſh, if theſe Creatures are not kept up in good Heart, it muſt, in Courſe, become fatal to them.

Of various Sorts of Hurdles, and their Uſes in Folding of Sheep.---THIS Article is not one of the leaſt I write on, becauſe it is of great Service to Farmers, for having their folding Hurdles in that right Order, as beſt ſerves their Intereſt to fold their Sheep in. There are cloſe-made Hurdles, and open-made Hurdles. In our chiltern, incloſed Fields of *Hertfordſhire*, where the Hedges ſtand thick, we make uſe of the five-floated open Hurdle, as thinking there is no Occaſion here for the cloſe Hurdle, where ſuch Fences break off much of the Violence of boiſterous Winds; beſides, as our Lands, in Chiltern Countries, are of a dry Nature, Sheep, even in Winter, are not ſubject to ſtolch, and daub their Feet and Bodies, as in low, wettiſh, Vale Grounds: But, in ſuch Vale Lands, the Caſe is otherwiſe, eſpecially where they lie in open common Fields, as moſt of them do. The ſame Exceſs of Winds blow alſo in ſome dry, large, open Fields, and the more, where the Land lies on Hills: In both which laſt Situations, the cloſe Hazel-rodded Hurdles are now much in Uſe; and, indeed, are an excellent Sort to break off the cold bleak Winds, and other Weather, from the Sheep, as they lie confined all Night in a Fold; for, indeed it is enough for the poor Creatures to endure the Chill of the Earth, and not to ſuffer beſides, the Violence of Winds, Rain, Snow, and Hail. The next Sort of Hurdle is the five-floated open Hurdle, drawn with Furze-Stalks,

Stalks, which ſome of the more dexterous Workmen will ſo cleverly perform, by weaving them in and out through the Sloats, that they'll make a cloſe Hurdle of this open one. The third Sort of Hurdle is likewiſe an open one, drawn with Wheat-Straw; which, after the Ears are taken off from it, the Straw becomes ſomewhat like Reed; and where it is well woven about the Sloats, it will prove a very cloſe, and yet not a very heavy Hurdle, that will, like that drawn with Furze, laſt two or three Years, for folding Sheep with. Now the Uſe of theſe Sort of Hurdles is this: In Vales, you muſt know, they don't fold their rich, black, marly Land ſo thick, as we do our poorer, drier, chiltern Land; therefore, to about an hundred Sheep, thirty-two open Hurdles to make a Fold, is allowed here, whereof ten of them are generally drawn with Furze or Straw, whereas, in our Chiltern Country, we make uſe of about twenty-eight, all open Hurdles, to that Number of Sheep; and where theſe cloſe-drawn Hurdles are thus made, they are every Night ſet to the Windward of the Fold, in order to break off the Wind and Weather in ſome Degree, and leſſen their Violence in Defence of the folded Sheep: So that about one-third Part of the Fold is compoſed of cloſe Hurdles, and all the reſt with open Hurdles: And thus, the Meat eat in the Day-time, by the Sheep, does them the more Good in the Night; beſides their Bodies being kept ſomewhat drier and warmer than they would be if ſome of the Hurdles were not drawn; a Practice carried on in ſeveral Countries, as well as in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*: However, in my Opinion, this Piece of Huſbandry is not yet extended to its proper Length; if it was, they would draw every open Hurdle with Furze, or with reedy Wheat-Straw; then let the Wind ſhift and come any Way, every Hurdle would ſtand right for breaking off its Force, as the rodded Hurdles do. Nor have they any Objection againſt this, but that it is more chargeable and troubleſome to move ſuch drawn Hurdles every Night, than it is the open Sort. Again, if this my Hint is not accepted, I here propoſe another, which is, that if only three or four drawn Hurdles, more or leſs, are ſet every Night in the Middle-part of the Fold, they will be ſomewhat ſerviceable to break off, and leſſen the Fierceneſs of the Weather from the Sheep. Thus, the Number of drawn Hurdles are a little increaſed, and yet will anſwer, in a great Degree, the End of ſecuring the Sheep from the Violence of Storms, and cauſing them to eat what Meat

is allow'd them in the Fold, with the better Appetite, for doing them the moſt Good.

Folding Sheep in the Weſt-Country.---HERE, as I hinted before, they always make uſe of rodded Hurdles, Summer and Winter, becauſe much of their Land lies high and dry, in open Fields, or in Downs; and as each of their chiefeſt Farmers folds his numerous Flock, even enough to dreſs an Acre, or near an Acre of Ground at once, ſome of them have ſeveral Racks of Hay, within their large, rodded Fold, that proves a ſecond Fence, to break off the Winds and Weather from their Sheep; for, as the Racks ſtand, the Sheep have the Liberty to feed on the warm Sides of them, and, at the ſame Time, add a Benefit to their Folding, by the offal Hay they pull under their Feet in feeding; for on this they piſs and dung, which being afterwards waſted by the Weather, and pull'd into the Earth by the Worms, it enriches their Plow'd Lands to a great Degree. And, indeed, I cannot ſee, but that the Example of my own Practice may be likewiſe ſerviceable to others, who occupy dry, chiltern Ground; which is the ſcattering a little Straw upon it every Night, in the Winter-time, for the Sheep to piſs and dung on it, and to keep their Bodies from the Chill of cold, wet Lands; for, by great Rains in the Winter, and Spring-time eſpecially, any of our incloſed Fields are in this Condition: And thus Sheep and Lambs may be made to fold Arable Land in Winter and Spring Weather, and yet kept from the Chill of Rains and bleak Winds. But as to their Folding of Sheep in Vales, few, as I ſaid, can do it, without ſpoiling their Land, and killing their Sheep; for here they have enough to do to keep them alive and in Health, throughout a hard Winter, in their Farm Yards; therefore they make uſe of Sheep-Cribs, that are made with only two Side-Boards, ten Feet long, and three ſhort ones acroſs; one nail'd at each End, and one in the Middle of it, that are a Foot in Breadth, for holding Hay, that the Sheep may eat it without daubing and dirting it with their Feet. But if Vale Lands are folded in Winter, it muſt be thoſe that are of the dry Sort; for, in ſome Vales, there are ſandy, gravelly, and dry, loamy Soils, as well as black, wet, loamy Sorts; and here a drawn Fold may be made uſe of all, or moſt Part of a Winter, to a Farmer's great Advantage, as it is done about *Leighton-Buzzard*, *Brickhill*, *Wooburn*, and in ſome other Parts of this Vale of *Aylſbury*, where they ſow Turnips, and feed their Sheep and fold

fold on them, by theſe drawn, or rodded Hurdles; which laſt Sort are made by ſome of the more ingenious Shepherds, with Hazel-Rods of ſix Years Growth; for, at this Age, they'll bend, and are full ſtrong enough for this Purpoſe, to be twiſted about four Stakes or Legs, whoſe bottom Parts are to be drove into the Earth at each Removal, and are ſo cloſe woven, that a Hare cannot get through them, nor a Sheep leap over them.

An Account of a very malicious Action, committed by a Collar-Maker, on a neighbouring Farmer's Flock of Sheep, by letting three hundred of them out of a Fold in the Night-time, by which fifty of them were hoved and died.---THIS hardly to be parallell'd, malicious Action, was committed by a Collar-Maker, on his Neighbour's Flock of Sheep, merely out of Revenge, becauſe the Farmer pounded his Horſe for the Damage he had done in eating of his green Corn; which happened in this Manner: The Collar-Maker having but very little Land that he plow'd of his own, could not well keep his Horſe on the ſame in the Summer-time, as his Land lay in a common open Field; and, for this Reaſon, he was neceſſitated either to hire Graſs-Ground, or to turn his Horſe into the Road or Lanes of the Pariſh, to pick up what Graſs, or feed on what Shoots or Leaves of Hedges he could come at: But this covetous Tradeſman choſe the latter, and run the Riſque of his Horſe's getting into neighbouring Grounds; which villainous Reſolution, occaſioned the following Damage. In the Pariſh, where this happened, moſt of their common Fields lie next to Road-ways and Lanes, that have very few Hedges about them to keep off Cattle, ſo that the Safety of their Crops of Grain, lies chiefly on the Care of Howards and Shepherds, to prevent the Damage of Cattle. Accordingly, this Collar-Maker's Horſe was taken up, on being found feeding on this Farmer's green Wheat, but was not pounded for this firſt Treſpaſs, as the good-natured Farmer deſigned it only for a Warning to the Collar-Maker, not do the like again; but, notwithſtanding this firſt Treſpaſs, and this firſt Warning, he let his Horſe range abroad for a Living, as he had done before, till he had done the like Damage; yet this Farmer did not take his Advantage even of this ſecond Treſpaſs; for, as I am inform'd, he only deſir'd the Collar-Maker to keep his Horſe up, and he would excuſe what was paſt: But all this lenitive Uſage did not prevail with this impudent Collar-Maker, to confine his Horſe; for, without paying any Regard

gard to the Damage his Horſe had done, he gave him the ſame Liberty as before, to ſeek his Living where he could find it; till, at laſt, he was taken up by this Farmer's Servant, put into the Pound, and made to pay, for three ſeveral Damages, only five Shillings. Now this Action of the Farmer's, in making the Collar-Maker pay five Shillings, notwithſtanding the Greatneſs of the Damage, and the Moderateneſs of the Sum, ſo exaſperated the Collar-Maker, that he immediately ſtudied Revenge, how he might hurt the Farmer in his Goods; and he put his wicked Deſign in Execution accordingly; for, in the Night-time, he opened a Hurdle of the Fold, wherein was at leaſt three hundred Sheep (for this Farmer rented the biggeſt Farm in the Pariſh) and let the whole Flock range where they would: And as the Sheep were at Liberty, they fed on high-grown Curlock, that grew in the adjacent Fallow Lands; and here they fed till fifty of them became ſwell'd or hoved, and died on the Spot. Next Morning, ſtrict Enquiry was made about the Neighbourhood, for the Malefactor, but none could be diſcovered, till ſome Time after, when this Collar-Maker (who was vehemently ſuſpected of having done this horrid Action) being cloſely tax'd about it, confeſs'd he was the Actor, and did the Miſchief, in Revenge for his being made to pay five Shillings for the Damage his Horſe did. Confeſſion being thus made, the Farmer demanded of the Collar-Maker, the Sum of thirty-five Pounds, accounting each Wether Sheep ſo loſt, worth fourteen Shillings: This, the Collar-Maker, at firſt, refuſed to pay; but being threatned with a Law-Suit, he complied, and paid every Farthing of that Sum.—Now to make Remarks on this Caſe, I have to ſay, That Callock, or Curlock, is a common Field Weed, carrying a yellow ſeedy Head on it, much like that of a Turnip when in its ſeedy Growth; is one of the worſt of Weeds in the Field, becauſe it grows in chalky, loamy, gravelly, and clayey Lands, amongſt all Sorts of Grain, and in many Crops of it ſo plentiful, that, at ſome Diſtance, a Field of green Corn is hardly to be ſeen, for the infinite Number of yellow-headed Curlock Plants. But, of all Ground, none ſo well agrees with Curlock, as the chalky Sort; and this was the very Soil the Curlock grew on, when the Sheep eat it, and were killed by it: For this Curlock, when it has got into a rank Growth in *April*, *May*, and *June*, has ſuch a hoving, or ſwelling Quality in it, that it is very dangerous to let Sheep feed among it any long Time; therefore Shepherds, when they feed their Flocks on it, as it

grows amongſt Field Horſe-Beans, begin betimes to let their Sheep crop it, before it has got high and rank; and by often baiting them among their Beans, they keep it down, and ſo prevent its having that hoving Quality in it; which it would certainly have, if let alone to grow high. It is the ſame Weed that grows alſo on Fallow Lands, before, and after plowing them; but, as I ſaid, moſtly on white Ground: And though this Ground is plowed to keep it down, yet it will ſoon be up again, eſpecially after a warm Shower of Rain has fallen upon this looſe Earth. What Infatuation muſt this Monſter be under, who, to ſatisfy an unjuſt, malicious Revenge, run a moſt pregnant Riſque of killing three hundred valuable Store-Sheep, and ruining a diligent, honeſt Farmer? For it might, very probably, have occaſioned the Farmer to break, and the Landlord to loſe moſt of his Rent. Hence I am led to obſerve, further, the Neceſſity there is for a Law to be made in Favour of Farmers, becauſe our Cattle, Graſs, Corn, Fruit, Trees, Hedges, and moſt of other Goods, are more expoſed to the Rapine of Thieves, and the Damage of evil Neighbours, than the Goods of Tradeſmen, or any other Perſons are, as ours are in diſtant Fields, where any may have free Acceſs in the Night-time, to our Hurt, if not Ruin; but chiefly, in Harveſt-time, when our Wheat is ſtole, while we, tired with hard Labour, are ſleeping in our Beds. It is, therefore, much to be wiſhed, that Juſtices of the Peace were impowered to inflict double, or treble Puniſhment on all Perſons that rob, or any Ways damage a Farmer---Who is truly ſaid to be the Man that pays all.---This Caſe brings to my Memory, the wicked Reſolution, a moſt barbarous Villain took to ruin a Farmer, which he effected, by robbing and damaging him, while he rented a Farm of forty Pounds a Year, at *Hudnel*, within a Mile of my Houſe; inſomuch, that the honeſt Man was diſcouraged carrying on the Farming Buſineſs, and therefore betook himſelf to the keeping of a Publick-Houſe, not for Want, becauſe he bought a Houſe with a little Land to it, at *Buſhy* in *Hertfordſhire*, afterwards; but becauſe this Rogue, who lived near this Farmer, took all Opportunities to diſtreſs him in his Abſence; and what he could not do by Day, he did by Night, in order to make him quit the Farm he held, for giving a Relation of this Day-Labourer's an Opportunity to come into it: And, accordingly, he effected his Deſign ſo far, as to cauſe the Farmer (as I ſaid) to re-

move and let his Kinſman take the Farm. But obſerve what Deſtruction followed the Wickedneſs of this Day-Labourer, and this ſucceeding Tenant. The Day-Labourer, as he was drawing, or working, in a Chalk-Pit, near *Tatternel* in *Bedfordſhire*, notwithſtanding the Precaution given him by his Fellow-Workmen, that if he did not immediately deſiſt digging, the Chalk Arch would coult and fall on him, this wretched Man, inſtead of taking this Warning, ſwore, he would have the other Stroke, which, while he was doing, ſo great a Quantity of Chalk fell on him, that maſh'd his Body, and kill'd him in an Inſtant: And as to the Farmer, he went on in a loſing Condition; for, by his clandeſtinely taking a Farm over another Man's Head, it did not proſper with him; for, in a little Time, he broke, and came to be a Day-Labourer himſelf. Another Example of premeditated Malice was acted in our Pariſh of *Little Gaddeſden*, by a Day-Labourer, who having a Pique againſt one of our Farmers, cut the Sinews of a valuable Horſe's Thigh, in the Night-time, while he was in a diſtant Field at Graſs, and utterly ſpoiled him.

The Advantage of folding Sheep on new-ſown Corn.---As no Improvement of Ground comes up to the common Way of Huſbandry, it highly concerns all Farmers, that practiſe Farming out of the Drill Way, to enjoy as much of dreſſing their Land with Sheep as poſſible; to which Purpoſe, ſuch Dreſſing ſhould be carried on, and obtain'd both before and after the Wheat and Barley, *&c.* is ſown. As to the making Uſe of it before the ſowing of Seed, I have already wrote ſo much on it, that I have the leſs to ſay here; and now come to ſhow how it ought to be carried on after the Grain is ſown. As ſoon, therefore, as the Seed is ſown, and the Field is in Order to receive the Fold, the Fold ought to be clapt on the ſame Ground, and when moved every Night, the Sheep ſhould be folded in the ſame, and ſo on till the Wheat, Barley, *&c.* is an Inch high; and although the Sheep may nab and eat it, they'll do it little or no Harm, as they tread and faſten the Earth on and about the Roots of the Grain; on the contrary, they'll do it much Service: For, firſt, if it be a chalky, ſandy, gravelly, or other looſe Earth, the Sheep, by being confined thick in a Fold, on a ſmall Quantity of Land, will ſo tread the Surface, as to make the Seed and the Ground lie cloſe to each other, by which the Seed will have a much greater Advantage of Growth, than if it lay looſer in the Earth.

Secondly,

Secondly, as the Seed lies in this cloſe Paſture, the Worm cannot have that free Acceſs to hurt it, as it might have when the Earth lies looſe about it. Thirdly, by the Dung and Stale of the Sheep, and by the oily, offenſive Nature of their Wool, which alſo, in ſome Degree, affects the Surface Earth, after Sheep have lain on it, and the Rains have waſh'd them into the Ground, not only the Worm is obliged to lie deep in it, for avoiding their unnatural Scents and Taſtes; but the Wheat and Barley is thereby greatly fertilized, and their Growth carried on in a moſt flouriſhing Condition, by their Virtue, even till Harveſt; provided always, and it ought to be well obſerved, that ſuch Folding on new-ſown Seed, be carried on in dry, fair Weather, for if it was to be done in rainy, wet Weather, the Sheep would here do more Harm than Good, becauſe they would ſtolch the Ground with their trampling on it, make Holes in it with their Feet, and thereby let in the Rains that would kill the Seed, ſour the Ground, and breed the Weed, to the Deſtruction, perhaps, of moſt, if not of the whole Crop. It's true, indeed, that Fold-Dreſſing of Land, for improving of Crops of Grain, cauſes the Crop to be a little later ripe, than if the Ground was dreſſed with Horſe, or Hog, or Fowl-Dung, *&c.* Yet this Deficiency is thoroughly compenſated, by having the Land dreſſed with the Dung and Stale of Sheep, free of thoſe noxious Weeds, which generally accompany Dungs from Stables, Hog-Styes, and Cow-Houſes, *&c.* Nor is there hardly any Land, but what the new-ſown Seed on it, may be improved by the Fold; provided, as I ſaid, the Folding is begun immediately after the Seed is ſown, and fair Weather happens while the ſame is doing.

The Advantage of folding Sheep on hack'd Ground; with a further Account of the Difference between the Dung of Sheep, and the Dung of Horſes, &c.---THE Folding of Sheep to the greateſt Advantage, very much depends on the Judgment and Diſcretion of the Farmer. For Example: The Chiltern Farmer finds, by true Experience, that when Sheep are folded on Ground, newly hacked by the Plow, he receives a great Advantage by it; becauſe by folding on ſuch Ground, the Dung and Stale of the folding Sheep is immediately covered by the Earth, whereby they are not only better, and preſently mix'd with the Earth, but they are likewiſe much better ſecured againſt the attractive Power of the Sun, and the Drineſs of the Winds, than when their

Dung and Stale are left only on the bare Surface, as they are always done, when they are folded on Lands, plow'd in the Broad-Land Mode. Now, in Courſe, there will a Queſtion ariſe here, What is hacking of Ground? To which I anſwer, that it is a particular Form of plowing Ground, and is what cannot be practiſed by thoſe Farmers who occupy Vale, Ridge Lands, and never plow them croſs-ways. Hacking may be performed on chalky, gravelly, loamy, or Clay Lands, provided they be ſometimes plowed acroſs; and is what is done by many Farmers in *Hertfordſhire*, chiefly at the firſt or ſecond Stirree of Land: Suppoſing then, that the Ground is harrowed ſmooth, we plow a Furrow, and in coming back with the Plow, we turn the ſame Furrow back again; ſo that though the Earth lies in the ſame Place, as before it was diſturb'd, yet the Land lies, by this Operation, in an uneven Poſture, and the Sheep, by treading it in the Fold all Night, treads it almoſt even, and thereby covers moſt of the Dung and Stale they have diſcharg'd while in the Fold; and indeed it is an excellent Way of plowing Ground, to make it fine in a little Time. I have likewiſe to ſay, that tho' I call Sheep-dreſſing an excellent Sort (as it certainly is in the general) yet there is Room for an Exception, for, as I have before hinted, it is a cold Dreſſing; and ſo cold, that in the hard, froſty Year, of 1740, that Wheat-Land, which was dreſs'd by the Fold, ſuffer'd moſt; and that Wheat-Land, which was dreſs'd by Dung, fared beſt, becauſe it kept the Roots of the Wheat warm, prevented the Damage of the Froſt, and cauſed the Crop to flouriſh, when many Crops, dreſs'd by the Fold, periſhed; or, at beſt, they were but in a poor, thin Condition, at Harveſt: For this Reaſon, we ſay, that Sheep-dreſſing laſts but one Year, when Dung laſts two, as the Vale Farmer finds true, by his Ridge-Land; well knowing that his Bean-Crop has little or no Benefit from the preceding Year's Fold-dreſſing for Wheat or Barley, becauſe the Virtue of it is ſpent in that one Crop.

A Proof of the Ignorance of ſome Farmers, and of the Knowledge of others, in the Folding of Sheep.---NOTWITHSTANDING, I believe, I may ſafely ſay, that *Hertfordſhire* is a County that practiſes Folding of Sheep, more than any one other County whatſoever; yet, in a Part of the ſame, not very far from *Rickmanſworth*, there are ſeveral Farmers, who have always forborn to dreſs their gravelly, loamy Soils by the Fold, out of an Opinion that it would be to little

or

or no Purpoſe, if they did; and this Notion they retain'd, till about ſeven Years ſince, that a Farmer took a Farm among them, that had a better Judgment than they had; for they ſaw that he had more Grain, in one Year, by Fold-dreſſing, than his Predeceſſors had in four, by not folding; which palpable Proof ſo influenc'd them, that now ſeveral of them carry on the Folding of Sheep to their great Advantage: Yet there may Miſtakes be made, even in Folding of Sheep, as may appear by what follows, *viz.*

Why Wheat-Stitches ought not to be folded on till the Wheat is up.---In writing on this Article, I confine my Pen to only the two-bout Stitch; a Form, that moſt Farmers in *Hertfordſhire*, ſow their Wheat in, becauſe the Seed is covered by four Furrows of Earth, and thereby the better defended againſt the Extremity of Froſt, Rains, Drought, and Damage of Field-Fowls; here a Farmer ought not to fold his Sheep, till the Wheat has appear'd above Ground, becauſe, in this Poſture, the Wheat-Seed lies deep in the Earth, and if Sheep are directly folded on it, as ſoon as ſown, they'll ſo tread and faſten the Ground, as to hinder the Wheat coming up, and then the Crop may be ſpoiled; wherefore the Sheep ſhould not be folded on it, till the Wheat appears above Ground: This is contrary to what may be done on broad Lands, for when Wheat is only harrowed in on broad Lands, it is perfectly neceſſary to clap the Fold on the ſame, to tread in the Seed, and faſten the Earth about it; becauſe Wheat-Seed, ſown in this Form, lies very ſhallow: Here then may appear the Difference of Farmers Judgments; ſome will fold on their Wheat-Stitches, directly after they are ſown, others will forbear till the Wheat is above Ground; but which is in the Right, my Reader may eaſily judge.

How a Farmer made more of his Hay, by feeding his Sheep with it all a Winter, than he could by ſelling it; and how, by folding his Meadow Ground with two-toothed Sheep, he gets a double Profit by it.---This is the frugal Management of a very ſmall Farmer, *John Puttenham* of *Rinxell*, in the Pariſh of *Ivinghoe*, in the County of *Bucks*, who living near *Ivinghoe* Common, keeps a conſiderable Number of Sheep by the Help of the ſame; and to do it, he lets his Sheep go every Day, when there is not a deep Snow on this Common, throughout a Winter, to pick up what Graſs they can find among the Furze and Fern that grow on this Common; and nab and bite the End of the

Furze, &c. and every Night he fetches them home, to feed on Hay in a Fold, which he ſhifts every ſecond Night, on his Meadow Ground; and ſo he continues his Folding on all the Winter, to the enriching of it to a very great Degree, while his Sheep lie dry, and get their Bellyful of good Hay; and alſo obſerves, to give a little Parcel of freſh Hay to his Sheep in the Rack, juſt before they go out of the Fold to the Common, for, in the Morning, after they have ſtaled and dung'd, they'll be very thin: Thus, by feeding them on the Common, in the Day-time, and by a Rack of Hay in the Fold at Night, he thinks, with a great deal of Reaſon, his Sheep bring more Meat and Dung into his Fold than they carry out. And what is further beneficial in this his Management, he reckons he gets another Profit, by thus feeding two-tooth'd Wether-Sheep; for, as he buys this Sort in at *Michaelmas*, at about ſeven Shillings a-piece, after keeping them a Winter, he thinks to ſell them, the following Spring, or Summer, for ten Shillings a-piece, when they have four broad Teeth.----- *N. B.* The Reaſon why he folds two Nights together on his Meadow, is, becauſe foldihg on Meadow won't anſwer, unleſs it's done two Nights together.

The Profit of Folding Ewe Sheep, and their Lambs, about Stutely.---THE Folding of Ewe Sheep, is certainly very profitable to any Ground they are folded upon, if they have Food in Plenty allow'd them; then indeed it is computed by ſome, that twenty Ewe Sheep, will do more good to Land in a Fold, than ſome Wether Sheep can; becauſe they'll eat more, ſtale more, and dung more, than Wether Sheep can: Beſides which, the Piſs of a Ewe Sheep is more rank, and more in Quantity than that of a Wether: Therefore it's thought, that the Piſs of Sheep does ten Times more Service to Land, than their Dung.---Some Farmers, about *Stutely* in *Bucks*, keep all Ewe Sheep to breed Lambs and fold, for here is ſome ſandy, gravelly, hilly Earth, as well as low, wet Loams. When the Ewes have lamb'd, and the Lambs are got a little ſtrong, they fold both Ewes and Lambs, till about a Fortnight after *Michaelmas*; and then they'll ſell the oldeſt Ewes off with their Lambs, and keep the youngeſt Ewes, and their Lambs on, for Storers.

The Management of Farmer Ives, *in feeding and folding his Sheep in Winter.*----THIS Farmer rented a Farm, of about an Hundred a Year, in the Pariſh of *Edleſborough*, in the

the County of *Bucks*, conſiſting of chalky, gravelly, and loamy Soils, which he chiefly dreſs'd by the Sheep-fold, both in Summer and Winter. In Winter, if he has no Turnips, he drives his Sheep on the Common every Day, and, before Night, brings them into his Yard, and there feeds them with one Sort of Straw or other, out of ſtanding Racks; and folds them every Night throughout a Winter, unleſs it rains hard at Folding-time; but when he has Turnips, he alters this Method of managing his Sheep, that is to ſay, when he has a Crop of Turnips take on his dry, huſky, hurlucky Land lying in open Fields, he folds his Sheep on the ſame all the Winter: For, you muſt know, that this Farmer, though he has every Year, Turnips on his good incloſed Grounds, yet he ſeldom feeds his Store-Sheep on theſe, becauſe he makes uſe of them for his fatting Sale-Sheep, and therefore ſows ſuch his poor, open-field Land, with Turnip-Seed, only for his Store-Sheep; and if the Seed takes, the Ground is ſo poor, that he ſeldom has more than Leaves, and ſome little dwindling Roots; however, as he gets theſe, without the Charge of Hoeing, they come cheap, and ſerve him to fold his Sheep on them all the Winter, with the Help of what Graſs they can pick up about the Commons, and ſome Straw given them now and then.

How Farmer Ives *might carry on the Feeding and Folding of his Sheep, in a better Manner than before-mentioned.*---PART of the Land that Farmer *Ives* rents, being, as I ſaid, a poor, hurlucky, white Sort, lying in the open Fields of *Edleſborough*, he might improve it much better by ſowing it with Weld-Seed, Rape-Seed, and Turnip-Seed, ſown all together, than by ſowing Turnip-Seed alone, becauſe there is a much greater Advantage belonging to this Management than the other; for if theſe three Sorts of Seeds are ſown in a Mixture all together, in the broad-caſt Way of ſowing them, they will agree very well, as they are much of the ſame Size and Bigneſs one as the other. To ſow one Acre of Ground with them, you may mix four Quarts of Weld-Seed, with two Quarts of Rape-Seed, and one Quart of Turnip-Seed, to be ſown on a fine, tilth Earth, made ſo, by ſeveral previous Plowings and Harrowings; and obſerve, that ſuch Sowing ſhould be twice in a Place, and harrowing it, only once in a Place. This being done on a well-hearted Earth, in the Month of *Auguſt*, there needs no Expence of Hand-hoeing them; for the Crop of the

Rapes

Rapes and Turnips is to conſiſt only in Leaves, that are to be fed by Sheep or Lambs, or both, in the Winter following; by which Means, their folding on the ſame Land may be made greatly to enrich it, and ſo as to cauſe the Weld-Seed, that lies inactive all the Winter, to grow and flouriſh into a very great and profitable Crop in the following Summer, after the Rapes and Turnip-Leaves are eaten off, and the Folding of Sheep has been carried on all the Winter on the ſame, by the Feed of them. Thus, while Sheep are dunging and ſtaling on the Weld-Seed, by their feeding on the Turnip and Rape-Leaves, there is an Improvement made of ſowing all theſe three Sorts of Seeds; but as my Reader may be unacquainted with the Nature and Profit of Weld, I will here give him a little Sketch of its Explanation.---Mr. *Trowell* ſays, at Page 31, in his new Treatiſe on Huſbandry, that this Weld, or Would, is a rich Commodity, and beareth a long, greenſh, yellow Flower; it flouriſhes in *June*, and, in ſome Places, it ſows itſelf, by growing wild; and, conſidering the little Charge of it, it brings great Profit to the Sower, it being of ſo great Uſe in the Dying Trade, for their yellow Colour; for it grows upon the pooreſt Land, if it is light, not worth a Shilling an Acre. It muſt be dry Land, and the Coſt is but little in managing it; it requires but little Tillaging and Harrowing; it may be ſown (ſays he) with your Barley or Oats; or better, if the Corn is ſown and harrowed firſt; this may be ſown afterwards, and harrow'd in with a Buſh-Hurdle, or only rolled in. A Gallon of Weld-Seed ſows an Acre. The Seed, thus ſown, may grow up among Corn, and will be no Prejudice to it, becauſe it grows not faſt the firſt Summer; but after the Corn is cut off, it muſt be preſerved, and the next Summer will be a very great Crop. When it begins to ripen, you are then to watch it, for if it is full ripe, it will ſcatter out; and if not ripe, it will make the Seed not perfect, nor your Stalk neither; therefore Care muſt be taken, both about the Seed, and its Ripening, as well as its Stalks; and as ſoon as you perceive them ripe, pull it as you do Flax, by the Roots, (for this grows up much like Wheat) and bind it in Handfuls, and ſet it to dry, until both Seed and Stalk is dry; then carry it away to ſome dry Place, that the Seed be not loſt, till you get a Sale for it from the Dyers, who many times give a very good Price for it, and will go far to buy: It has been ſold from three Pounds, to twelve Pounds an Acre,

Acre, and more, if you keep it to *March*, together with the Seed; then get out the Seed, and it will ſell for about ten Shillings a Buſhel, or more, as the Market riſes or falls. The Stalk and Root are both uſeful, and muſt go together, and gives the bright yellow, and lemon Colour. The beſt Place for Seed is about *Canterbury* in *Kent* or *Wye*, where you may ſee both Land and Growth. It is ſold by Weight often, at ſo much a Hundred.---See more of Weld, in Page 47, in my third Volume of *Modern Huſbandman.*

The yearly Practice of a Chiltern Farmer, to make the greateſt Profit of his Sheep and Lambs, by Folding and otherwiſe.----THIS Farmer rents a large, incloſed, dry Farm in *Hertfordſhire*, and makes it his yearly Practice to draw off his Lambs from his Ewes, about *May*-Day, in order to wean them, and keep them up in Fleſh; for which Purpoſe, he directly puts his Lambs into his Oat-Field, for now the green Oats are high enough to afford them a Bite, and what they bite will do little, or no Damage, to them, but rather cauſe the Oats to branch and flouriſh the more; and after they have fed a while among the Oats, he ſhifts their Living, by putting them into his Peaſe Field, where, after they have fill'd their Bellies, perhaps by nipping off ſome of the Pea-Heads, they'll then pick among the Weeds: And thus he weans theſe Lambs, and keeps them feeding on green Meat in Plenty, till Sheering-time, when they are admitted again into the Company of their Dams, that, by this Time, are intirely dry Sheep. Now here lies the Benefit of this Practice, the Ewes he keeps within his incloſed Fields, and folds them by themſelves, and does the ſame after the Lambs have rejoined them, and been weaned; when the Ewes being, by this, made dry Sheep of, they'll take Ram in *Auguſt* following; whereas, if he lets the Ewes and the Lambs always go together, it might hinder the Ewes taking Ram in Time, if at all. And as to the Wether Sheep that this Farmer keeps, he keeps them on an adjacent Common, and folds them off it all the Summer. It's true, that two ſeveral Folds give the Shepherd the more Trouble, but, as he does it all for the ſame Wages, it is no Loſs to the Maſter. And after he has folded his Sheep till *Allhollantide*, he draws the oldeſt of them out, and fats them on Turnips: But I ſhould have ſaid, he draws the oldeſt Sheep out, as ſoon as his Harveſt Corn is got home; and after they have been fed here ſome Time,

to get a little Fleſh on them, he puts them into his Turnip-Field at *Allhollantide*, to fat for the Butcher.

The Caſe of three neighbouring Farmers, ſhewing how two of them got Money, by keeping and folding Sheep, while a third loſt Money by doing ſo.----To begin this Account, I have to ſay, that theſe three Farmers, have all of them one and the ſame Landlord, and each of them occupies one and the ſame Sort of Ground, as Chalks, Gravels, and Loams; and whoſe Rents are about ſeventy Pounds a Year each. One of them keeps three hundred Sheep, by the Help of his incloſed Fields, and that of a Common, adjoining to his Farm. The ſecond, having not a ſufficient Common to graze his Flock of two hundred and fifty on, pays ſo much a Year for an incloſed, poor Piece of Graſs Ground, containing about one hundred Acres, which anſwers his Purpoſe; ſo that both theſe Farmers get Money apace, by their Sheep, and other Branches of Huſbandry. But the third Farmer, having very little common Ground, he is forced to ſupply the Want of it, by ſowing ſeveral of his Fields with artificial Graſs-Seeds, and Turnip-Seed, *&c.* which cauſes him to loſe Money every Year, by keeping a Flock of one hundred and ſixty Sheep, inſtead of getting any; as may appear by the following Particulars.---The Quantity of Land he rents, is about one hundred and ſixty Acres, for which he pays ſixty-five Pounds a Year, and has generally thirty Acres of it ſown with artificial Graſſes, as Trefoil and Reygraſs, which he ſows on his white Loams, and his Clover on gravelly Loams: He likewiſe commonly ſows twenty Acres of his Fallow Ground with Turnip-Seed, and the Turnips that he eats off with his Sheep before *Chriſtmas*, he ſows the ſame Land with Wheat; and thoſe he eats off afterwards, he ſows that Land with Barley.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
By keeping 160 Sheep, he folds and dreſſes 20 Acres of Land	20	0	0
Wool of them, reckoning 2 Pounds one with another, 12 Todd	7	0	0
	27	0	0

The

	l.	s.	d.
The Charge of keeping his Sheep with 30 Acres of Graſs	30	0	0
Twenty Acres of Turnips - - -	20	0	0
Shepherd and his Dog - - - -	20	0	0
	70	0	0
Subtract	27	0	0
Loſs	43	0	0

Now, inſtead of loſing 43 *l.* if he kept no Sheep, he would get 50 *l.* for his Graſs and Turnips, by ſelling them to others that feed Sheep to fat for the Butcher, or otherwiſe, beſides ſaving the Charge of a Shepherd: And then ſuch Sheep, by Agreement with their Owner, may be obliged to eat off his Turnips and Graſs, by ſuch a Time, ſo as to have an early Opportunity to plow and ſow his Turnip and Graſs Ground, with Grain, in due Time, *&c.* Or take it thus:---The Common belonging to this Farmer's Farm, is not worth above twenty Shillings a Year, and as he ſometimes keeps one hundred and eighty Sheep to fold and dreſs his Land, he is obliged to eat his Graſs and Turnips off his Fallow Land ſo late, as greatly damages his Crops of Grain; for he cannot begin to plow his Graſs Land up till *Midſummer* for Wheat; and then it is ſo late to make a Fallow and three Stirrees, that he cannot get his Land fine, and in ſweet Order, if much wet Weather ſhould happen, till *Allhollantide*; and then, as his Wheat is forced to be ſown thus late, the cold Weather, in courſe, comes on, and overtakes it in its infant Growth, when, for Want of a ſtrong Root, and a blady Head to cover it, it's a great Chance, but much of it periſhes. He likewiſe ſhould have no Sheep on his Turnips, after *Lady-day* at fartheſt; for, by keeping Sheep longer on his Turnips, even till Mid-*April*, or longer, he can give it but one Plowing for Barley; and being ſo belated, if dry Weather ſhould ſet in, the Barley may not be able to come out of the Ground, but die away under a rough, clotty Earth. Thus his Wheat and Barley may fare equally bad: Beſides which, he is further ſubject to Loſſes; for, as ſome of his Ground lies in common Fields, and ſome in Incloſures, he is forced to employ a Number of Hurdles, and ſome dead Hedges, to make Drift-ways for keeping his Sheep, in their Walks, from

hurting his green Corn; beſides his buying prepared Water to dreſs his ſcabby Sheep with, their Sheering, and the Loſs of ſeveral, in every Year, by the Red-water; a Diſeaſe many of his Store-Sheep are ſubject to through Poverty; and by Means of his being obliged to drive them out of the Fold, while the Dews and Cobwebs are on the Common, that they may be able to catch a Bite of Graſs; for if they ſtay longer, the Graſs is ſo ſhort that they cannot eat it, and then they are forced to lick up theſe poiſonous Cobwebs. Again, by his keeping a Flock of Sheep, without a ſufficient Quantity of common Ground to help maintain them, they eat up that Graſs which his Horſes and Cows ſhould have in that, and in Hay, for Winter Uſes; for Want of which, they eat Straw when they ſhould have Hay, which cauſed the Death of two of his Horſes in 1746, and his four Milch Cows, to give no more Milk than what juſt keeps his Houſe: And was it not for his ſowing ſome Thetches, he could not work his Horſes in a tolerable Manner; but by ſowing theſe at *Michaelmas*, he mows them green about *Midſummer*, when his Horſes and Cows have done feeding on Straw, and gives them to them in a Rack, and this he continues to do till the Thetches get browniſh ripe, for Want of other Food; and when this becomes their Meat, he gives them no Corn, as believing theſe ſufficient to ſupply it, and Hay; and yet works his ſeven Horſes hard at Plow and Timber-Cart, always keeping them in the Stable Summer and Winter. To conclude my Account on this bad Manager, I have only to add, that this Farmer is led the more into Miſtakes, by Reaſon of his being brought up from his Cradle in a Clay Farm; for, notwithſtanding his living ſeventeen Years in this chalky, gravelly, and dry, loamy Farm, he wants to go on here, as he did there; for he will not be convinced of his Errors, though he is one of the beſt of Plowmen; for he'll go ſtrait with a Plow forty Poles together, by the Help of ſticking up a Bough, at the End of a Shot or Furrow he deſigns to plow; all which ſhews that, where a Farmer has not ſufficient Commoning for his Folding Sheep, it is wrong to keep a Flock of Wether Sheep as this Man does, purely for folding his Ground, becauſe the Meat of his In-Grounds is more valuable than the Dung, and Stale, and Wool of the Sheep. Therefore, as I ſaid, it would tend more to his Advantage to ſell his ſpare Turnips, and ſpare Graſs to others for ready Money, and keep no Sheep of his own, and yet dreſs and

manure

manure his Land to much Profit; by buying in with ſuch Money, Soot, or Rags, or Horn-Shavings, or Hen-Dung, Rabbit-Dung, or Pigeons-Dung, Trotters, or Hoofs, or Hair, or Lime, or Glover's Shavings, Pitch-Marks, *&c.* *&c.* by which he may keep what Quantity of artificial Graſs he thinks fit, for his Horſes and Cows, for feeding it green or in Hay, and ſupply the Want of a folding Flock of his Sheep, to his great Advantage; for as he goes on now, he can hardly pay his Rent, having been threatned with a Seizure, but laſt Year, 1747, while his two next Neighbours get Money apace, by keeping their Folding Sheep abroad, while they make the greateſt Advantage of their In-Grounds.

The Advantage of folding Sheep on Turnips, while in their firſt and infant Growth, and how to prevent the Sheep eating them while they are in the Fold.---WHAT is put in Practice, therefore, by many Farmers in *Hertfordſhire*, viz. to fold on their Turnip Ground, as ſoon as it is ſown with Seed; for, by this good Piece of Huſbandry, the Sheep cloſe the Earth on the Seed, and by their Stale and Dung they enrich the Ground, and cauſe the Growth of the Turnips to be ſtrong and expeditious; and certainly keeps off the Damage of all Flies, and other Inſects, that may annoy and hurt the Turnips in their firſt and infant Growth. But in this Management, due Care ought to be taken to prevent the Damage that Sheep may do while they are in the Fold; and that is, as they are very apt to paw and ſcratch up the Earth with their Feet, the Turnip-Seed will, in Courſe, be diſplaced and hindred growing. To remedy this, we generally, every Night, at folding the Sheep, ſcatter ſome Turnip-Seed firſt over the Ground, which makes the Seed thick enough to allow for this Kind of Damage; and as we carry on this Sort of Folding on Turnips, for ſome Time, in the ſame Field, it frequently happens, that, before we come to the End of it, the Turnips are come up an Inch or more high. When this is the Caſe, we, every Night, before the Sheep enter the Fold, ſcatter Wood, or Cole Aſhes, over the ſame Ground; and it not only forces on the Growth of the Turnips, in order to make them the largeſt of Turnips, but it alſo prevents the Sheep eating them. Again, in this Management, it muſt be obſerved, not to fold the Sheep while the Weather is wet; for if this is done, they'll ſpoil the Crop inſtead of helping it, becauſe they'll ſtolch the Ground, diſplace the Seed,

and tear it up, to the Loſs of the Crop: Others, again, will make uſe of Coal or Wood-Soot, for this ſame Purpoſe, by ſcattering ſome over the Ground where the Turnip-Seed is ſown, to prevent the Sheep biting the firſt ſprouting Leaves of the Turnips; but it ſometimes happens, that, in a very dry Seaſon, there is no Occaſion for either the Aſhes or the Soot; becauſe, as Turnip-Seed may, in ſuch dry Weather, lie two, or three, or more Weeks, before their Sprouts appear, the Fold may have Time to paſs over the whole Turnip-Field, before the Danger happens.

The Caſe of a Chiltern Farmer, who loſt an hundred of his Folding Sheep in the great froſty Winter of 1740, *by refuſing to give them Hay, after his Turnips were rotted and ſpoiled by the Froſt, whereby he ſuffered by the Loſs of his Sheep, and the Folding of his Ground.*—THIS Farmer kept three hundred Wether Sheep, for dreſſing his Land by the Fold, as it is of a chalky, gravelly, and loamy Nature; which being a dry Earth, he could carry on his folding it all a mild Winter, to a conſiderable Advantage, with the Help of Turnips and Straw; he therefore ſowed twenty-four Acres with Turnip-Seed, and had a very good hoed Crop of them: Accordingly he began to eat them a little after *Allhollantide*, with his Folding Sheep, and folded them every Night when the Weather permitted it; but by the Time he had eaten ſome off, the Froſt began, and ſet hard in, ſo as to freeze, and at length ſpoiled all his Turnips, inſomuch that they were not eatable. Now, this ſame Farmer had, at that Time, a Stack of good Clover Hay by him, that contain'd, it was thought, about twenty Loads, which he refuſed giving to his Sheep in a ſmall Quantity, though the Turnips were all rotted and ſpoiled, ſaying, he could not ſpare his Clover from his Horſes and Cows; and therefore gave his Sheep nothing but Straw the reſt of the Winter, even till the Beginning of *April*, when a ſmall Bite of Graſs appear'd for their Subſiſtence, to carry on his Summer Folding. Thus he went on feeding his Sheep with only Straw out of Racks, during the Winter, and Part of the Spring Seaſon, with driving them abroad every Day, for four or five Hours, about the Fields, to give them an Opportunity of getting a Bite of Graſs or Weeds, and to air them for getting a Stomach, the better to eat Straw at Night in the Farm Yard. But this his Management did not turn out to his Advantage; on the contrary, he loſt conſiderable, by this his covetous Procedure; for, by confining

confining his Sheep to eat only Straw, the pooreſt and feebleſt of them pined and ſtarved, as not eating enough to keep them alive: So that out of his Flock of three hundred Sheep, he loſt one hundred that died by the Hunger Rot, which made Work enough for his Shepherd to ſkin them, for ſelling their Skins for about Sixpence or Eightpence a-piece: And as to their Carcaſſes, the Fowls of the Air, the Vermin of the Field, the Farmer's Dogs and Hogs, were fed in Plenty with them. In ſhort, this Farmer, notwithſtanding he had been brought up to the Farming Buſineſs all his Life, was ſo ſilly as to commit this great Miſtake, which ſo much redounded to his Prejudice, that he was very near being ſeized on for Non-payment of Rent; whereas, had he acted the wiſe and prudent Huſbandman, he might have ſaved the Lives of, perhaps, all his Sheep, and carried on his Folding all the Winter and Spring to his great Profit, by feeding them with ſome Hay and ſome Straw; but if he had given them Hay altogether, they would have paid him well for it by the Fold, by their Fleſh, and by their Wool: That is to ſay, he ſhould have had five or ſix Sheep Racks ſtand every Night in his Fold, that are made each of them about ten Foot long, and no heavier than the Shepherd could move them at his Pleaſure; in theſe there ſhould have been put Clover-Hay every Night, and the Sheep would have fed heartily on it, after being kept all Day, in the Farm-Yard, on Straw: And thus he might have dreſſed many Acres of his dry Land by the Fold, with ſuch a Number of Sheep, during the Winter and Spring Seaſons, except in an extraordinary wet, and ſnowy Time; for it is a common Saying amongſt Shepherds---That hardly any Weather hurts Sheep, if they have but a Bellyful of Meat.

Lambs ought not to be folded in the fore Part of the Summer.---In *May* they ſhould be taken off their Dams, and put on a Common with one or more old Ewes, in order to grow and get Fleſh againſt Winter. This is moſtly contrary to our *Hertfordſhire* Practice, for we generally fold them with their Ewes, throughout all the Summer, which is wrong, for that their Dung and Urine, the fore Part of the Summer, is of little or no Value. But if there is good Baiting, enough to keep them on in Fleſh, they may be folded the latter End of the Summer, when there is commonly Meat enough on Clover-Leys, or in Stubbles, *&c.* and then a little Folding does a great deal of Good.

Of forward folding Ground.---A GENTLEMAN that kept above three hundred folding Sheep, after he had fed them all the Winter on Straw in Racks, in a Yard, and turning them out every Day on the large Common of *Barkhamſtead*, began folding his Fallow Land the Beginning of *April*, by feeding them in the Day-time, on the ſaid Common, and giving them Hay at Night, in a Rack or Crib, in the Fold, for ſome Time, till Graſs grew on the Common high enough to ſubſiſt them without Hay.

Good Management of a Shepherd in folding his Sheep.---THIS, a right Shepherd will well obſerve, which is to watch his Flock, and keep his Sheep, as much as he can, upon their Legs, for if they lie down too much, when they get up, they are apt to dung and ſtale; and this, in particular, they ought not to do, more than ordinary, towards Night, that they may not leave their Dung and Stale on the Common, but carry it into the Fold.

A Calculation of Loſs and Gain, made by John Puttenham, *a Sheep-Dealer, by buying in forty two-toothed Sheep, folding them one Year, and ſelling them off at the Year's End.*---THIS Calculation was made by one *John Puttenham*, a Sheep-Jobber, then living at *Rinxel*, in the Pariſh of *Ivinghoe*, in the County of *Bucks*, who, about *Michaelmas*-time, bought in forty two-toothed Sheep, for ſeven Shillings a-piece, with an Intent to make a Profit by the ſame; to which Purpoſe, after he had folded them a Winter and Summer, he was to ſell them off at the Year's End: Therefore he begun quickly after *Michaelmas*, to erect a Fold on his Meadow Land, wherein he placed a Sheep-Rack for holding Hay, and when his Graſs was eaten off in his incloſed Fields, which was ſoon done, (for he rented but ten Pounds a Year) he fed them with it every Night he folded, during the Winter, and every Morning drove his Sheep on the ſaid Common, which lay but about two Stones Throw from his Houſe; here he folded twice in a Place before he ſhifted the Fold, and continued doing ſo till *Lady-day*, or afterwards, when he began folding on his fallow, plow Ground; here he went on with his Folding the whole Summer, till *Michaelmas* following, which concluded the Year's Folding, and then he ſold theſe forty Sheep off for ten Shillings a-piece, and bought forty more two-toothed Sheep in, to fold and go on as he did with the laſt, according to the following Calculation, *viz.*

For

	l.	s.	d.
For forty two-toothed Wether Sheep, bought in at *Michaelmas*, for ſeven Shillings a-piece	14	0	0
For three Loads of Hay to ſubſiſt them with all the Winter, till *Lady-Day*, at 30*s.* per Load	4	10	0
For driving and attending the Flock, from *Michaelmas* to *Michaelmas*, at 1*s.* a Week.	2	12	0
	21	2	0

WHEREOF,

For the Benefit of folding forty Sheep all the Winter Half Year, at 4*d.* a Night 182 Nights	3	2	0
For the Benefit of folding forty Sheep, the Summer Half-Year, 182 Nights, at 6*d.* a Night	4	1	0
For Wool, at two Pound and a Half from each Sheep, at 6*d.* per Pound, 100 Pound nett Weight	2	10	0
Selling forty Sheep at the Year's End, for being fatted on Turnips at 10*s.* each	20	0	0
	29	13	0
Subtract	21	2	0
Profit gain'd, in one Year, by keeping 40 Sheep	8	11	0

CHAP. VII.

Of Suckling HOUSE-LAMBS.

The great Profit attending the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs.

IT often ſurprizes me, when I think how many Perſons may enjoy this Profit, and yet go without it. I call it a Profit, and a very great one too, as it is made ſuch by a conſiderable Number of Grazing and Plow Farmers, within thirty Miles of *London*; for it is own'd, by ſeveral of them,

them, that if they did not ſuckle Houſe-Lambs, they could not pay their Rents: It therefore, I ſay, moves my Wonder, why the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs is not carried on in many other Parts of *England*, as well as it is at this Time about *London*, ſince there are Cities, large County Towns, Sea-Port Towns, and other Places, where many Perſons live, and are capable (and, no doubt, deſirous) of buying ſuch delicate Lamb's Fleſh; and if they cannot here afford to give quite ſuch large Prices for it, as is done in *London*, yet ſince, in remote Parts, Land, and Mens Labour, are cheaper than in *Middleſex*, *Hertfordſhire*, and other adjacent Counties to that Metropolis, the one I ſhould think might anſwer to the other; but if I impute the Omiſſion of it to the Want of Judgment, how the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs may be carried on to Profit, I am of Opinion I gueſs right; I therefore ſhall encourage this Improvement, by being very particular in giving an Account how it may be done to Profit.

Of the Advantage of having incloſed Fields of natural Graſs, and of having incloſed Fields of plow'd Ground, ſowed with Turnip or Rape-Seed, and the Seed of artificial Graſſes, &c. &c. for feeding Milch, or Suckling Ewes, to rear up and fat Houſe-Lambs for Market.---To carry on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs in Perfection of Profit, there ſhould be ſeveral incloſed Fields near the Farm Houſe; for the nearer they are, the ſhorter will be the Ewes Drift, and the ſhorter the Drift, the leſs Waſte of Milk, and the leſs Damage will happen to their Feet and Bodies. This is an Article of no little Importance in the Suckling of Houſe Lambs, becauſe a long Drift makes the Feet of the Beaſt ſo ſore and painful, as much leſſens its Milk, as thoſe Perſons know, by ſad Experience, who are neceſſitated by the diſtant Situation of their Lands, to drive them daily to them for their Food. It is this great Conveniency alſo, that delivers the Sheep, in ſome Degree, from that very bad Malady the Foot-Rot, which overtakes conſiderable Numbers of theſe ſerviceable Creatures, in moſt Places they are ſuckled at, and makes them ſo lame, that their Meat does them the leſs Good, and very much leſſens their due Quantity of Milk; ſo that the Sheep, their Lambs, and their Owner ſuffer by this Evil; and which many Farmers that ſuckle Houſe-Lambs, whoſe Land lies at too great a Diſtance from the Place of Suckling, are never free from, eſpecially thoſe who are forced to travel their Ewes ſeveral Times a Day, through

gravelly Roads, or Lanes, to, and from the Field of Meat. Again, incloſed Fields are indiſpenſably neceſſary, for having Thetches, or Vetches, Clover, Trefoil, Reygraſs, St. Foyne, Rye, Turnip, and Cole-Seed, ſown in them for the more commodious feeding milch or dry Sheep apart, and for mowing ſome and feeding others, which in common, open, champaign Fields cannot be done without an extraordinary Charge, and Trouble in doing it, by rodded Hurdles. The ſame Conveniency, likewiſe, attends incloſed Fields of Meadow and Paſture, for that ſome of theſe may be ſhut up for mowing, while others are feeding; for where Houſe-Lambs are ſuckled, they muſt have Hay, or Turnips, or Rapes, provided againſt Winter, for the Winter Subſiſtence of the Ewes, or, elſe, there is no ſuch Thing as carrying on this Buſineſs to Profit. Indeed, where there is no ploughed Land, belonging to a Farm, and it conſiſts, altogether, of incloſed, natural Graſs-Ground, by the only Help of grazing the Ewes, in Summer and Autumn, and giving them Hay, in hard Weather, Suckling of Ewes may be carried on to Profit; but after their Graſs is eaten up, they can go on no longer, for Hay alone won't do. Whereas, the Plough-Farmer, by the Help of his artificial Graſſes, or their Hay, and his Turnips, or Rapes, can carry it on all the Year. On this Account it is, that many of the *Middleſex* Meadow-Farmers ſuckle and fat every Year great Numbers of Houſe-Lambs, but not near ſo many as the *Hertfordſhire* Plough-Farmers do.

The Caſe of a Hertfordſhire *Plough-Farmer, who carries on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs all the Year.*---THIS Farmer, that I here write of, rented a Farm of an Hundred a Year, ſituated at three and twenty Miles Diſtance from *London*, conſiſting of incloſed Fields of arable Land, and but little Meadow; the whole containing above two hundred Acres, lying high and dry, of a pebbly, gravelly, loamy, poor Nature, that in dry Summers returns thin Crops of Wheat, Barley, and other Grain. But his Meadow Ground, that lies by a River's Side, although it bears a coarſe Graſs, yet it ſeldom fails of a good Burthen on it. This Summer, 1747, being a wettiſh one, he had a tolerable good Crop of about fifty Acres of Wheat, forty of Barley, fifty of Oats, one Acre and Half of White-Peaſe, fifteen Acres of Turnips, and twenty Acres of Clover, and Reygraſs, and Trefoil, ſown all together, which with fifteen Acres of Fallow Land, twenty Acres of Meadow Ground, makes in all one hun-

dred and ſixty one Acres, beſides forty of old, lay Ground, or worn out Clover and Reygraſs; all which maintained nine Horſes, ſix Cows, and one hundred and forty Ewe Sheep and Lambs, beſides three Rams and Swine; and as moſt of his gravelly Ground does not agree with Clover, ſo well as with Trefoil and Reygraſs, he truſts moſtly to the two latter for a Crop. The better Sort of his Land he lets lie under artificial Graſs two Years, before he ploughs it up, to ſow Corn on it; the worſer Sort remains longer, here he ſows ſome *French* Wheat, for breaking it at the Mill, and fatting his Swine with it, *&c.* Some Rye he alſo ſows, for that this Sort of Land bears both theſe Grains well, but ſows not much of them; for though they both agree well with gravelly Land, yet they are great Peelers, and Impoveriſhers of it. After his artificial Graſs has been fed, or mowed, more than one Year, if he gives the Land two Ploughings, he ſows it with Wheat-Seed, in Stitches or two Bout Lands; but if he gives it only one Ploughing, he harrows his Wheat-Seed in, and relies chiefly on the Freſhneſs of ſuch lay Ground, for a good Crop of Grain; for this Farmer bought ſeldom any Manure, or Dreſſing for his Land, notwithſtanding he had abundantly more than his Dung could dreſs. The Reaſon was, becauſe he came on this large Farm, at firſt, in narrow Circumſtances, and therefore was not able to buy Soot, Rags, Horn-Shavings, or other Aſſiſtance, from *London*, as many other *Hertfordſhire* Farmers do, for enabling his hungry, raſhy, gravelly Land, to bear full Crops of Corn, *&c.* which had he been able to do, he very probably might have got much Money. It is true, that ſuch poor, hungry Land requires rather a double Dreſſing, for returning a great Crop of Corn. Then, indeed, when it has ſuch a plentiful Aſſiſtance, no Land yields more Grain on it, in a wettiſh Summer, as I find by Experience, having one of my Fields of the ſame Sort of Soil, which we call kerning Ground; he likewiſe ſows ſome Wheat-Seed on the ſame Land his forward Turnips are eaten off, and is a very good Piece of Huſbandry, becauſe the ſame Ground being ploughed fine and dreſſed for a Crop of Turnips, and hoed beſides, when it is ploughed up in *December*, *January*, or *February*, for ſowing it with Wheat, it may be in ſufficient Heart to bear a very good Crop of it, eſpecially if it be aſſiſted with Dung, juſt before Sowing. In 1747 I had an admired Crop of Dame Wheat ſown, after this Manner, on the 20th Day of *March*.---The third Way of his ſowing Wheat is on ſome

fallow

fallow Ground.--As to his Barley Crops, he commonly ſows this Seed on only one Ploughing, after his latter Turnips are eaten off; his other Grain as uſual.------He, alſo, every Year mows ſome of his artificial Graſs for Hay, and ſo he does ſome of his Meadow Graſs, for the ſame Purpoſe, to feed his Ewes with in ſnowy, and other hard Winter Weather. All which ſhews the Excellency of the ſuckling Art, for as a rich Tenant is not always to be got, rather than ſuch a Farm ſhould want one, a poor Tenant is to be accepted, and a poor Tenant could not pay his Rent here, if he did not ſuckle Houſe-Lambs on it, as this Tenant did, who owns that this very Branch of his Farming chiefly helped him to do it; for that his Crops of Grain, in this pebbly, gravelly, hungry Land, in a dry Summer, were of little Value. The next Thing I have to write on is, to provide convenient Coops, and a large Sheep Room, for carrying on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs.

Of convenient Coops, or Lamb-Pens, to keep Suckling Lambs in, and a Sheep Room for the Ewes to be ſuckled in, with the Hertfordſhire *Method of ſuckling Houſe-Lambs.*-----WITHOUT theſe, there is no ſuch Thing as ſuckling Houſe-Lambs to Profit, becauſe Conveniency, in this Reſpect, is great Part of the Work; for Suckling the before-mentioned Number of Sheep, the Farmers employ four ſeveral Coops or Pens, and one large Suckling Room, for the Ewes to ſtand in, till they are ſucked; the four Coops, or Pens join each other in a Row, with a Door to every one of them, to open and let out the Lambs, by Degrees, into the Suckling Room. Three of theſe Pens are each of them about ----Feet ſquare; the fourth as big as two of them, and the Suckling Room bigger than all of them; now the Uſe of all theſe four Pens, and Sheep-Room, is as follows, *viz.* One Pen is for the oldeſt Lambs, the ſecond Pen, for the next eldeſt, and the third Pen is for the youngeſt Lambs; but the fourth Pen is for two Uſes, one of which is, that as the Shepherd, and his aſſiſtant Boy, ſuckles four Lambs at a Time, when theſe of the oldeſt Sort are ſuckled from out of their little Pen, they are for the preſent put into the large fourth Pen; and when four more, of the oldeſt Lambs, are taken out and ſuckled, they are likewiſe put into this large Pen, and ſo on, till all the oldeſt Lambs, out of one Pen, are ſuckled, and then return'd into their own little Pen, from whence they were at firſt taken out. Then the Shepherd begins to take four Lambs out of the ſecond Pen, and ſuckles them, and when ſuckled

they are put into the large Pen, and ſo on, till all out of the ſecond Pen are ſuckled, and returned into their own little Pen; and thus the Shepherd ſerves the Lambs of theſe two Pens, by which Mode of Suckling, every Lamb is kept to its own Pen.-----But to be more particular in this my Account of Suckling Houſe-Lambs, I have to obſerve, to my Reader, that at Eight o'Clock at Night, all the Year long, they bring out of the Field only the Dams, or own Mothers, of thoſe Lambs that are at home, and put all of them in the large Sheep-houſe, to lie all Night with all the three Sorts of aged Lambs, except a few of the very youngeſt and weakeſt Lambs, which are confined all Night, in the fourth and largeſt Pen, to lie with their own Dams; and this is done, becauſe if they ſhould be let out, and kept in the Sheep-houſe, amongſt the reſt of the older Lambs, it is a Chance if ſome of them don't come by ſome Hurt by being trod on. Next Morning, when the Shepherd enters the Sheep-houſe, he examines all the Bags, or Udders of the Ewes, to find out if there be any Milk left in them, which he eaſily diſcovers by feeling them, and if there is, he then takes a Lamb, that he thinks has not had a Bellyful of Milk, and puts it to that Ewe for draining and drawing her Bag dry, and ſo any other Ewe, in the like Condition; for if this Practice is not ſtrictly obſerved, and any Ewe is drove to the Field with Milk in her Bag, the Conſequence will be, that Milk, thus left behind, tends much towards drying the Ewe before her due Time.----At Eight o'Clock, the ſame Morning, the Shepherd brings in the Sucklers, or what we call Mothers-in-Law, out of the Field, when the Shepherd and his Boy lets out from the Pen, four of his oldeſt Lambs, at a Time, to ſuckle two Sheep, one Lamb on each Side of a Sheep, and after theſe four have filled their Bellies, they are put up into the great Pen, for the preſent, and four more let out to ſuckle as the firſt four were, and ſo on, till all the oldeſt Lambs are ſuckled, and returned into their own little Pen. Next he ſuckles the ſecond oldeſt Lambs, in the very ſame Manner, and while any of theſe two Sorts of aged Lambs are ſuckling, and they do not ſtand ſtill, as they ſhould do, the Shepherd and his Boy are forced to gripe each unlucky Ewe, pretty hard by its Jaw, and if this does not quiet her, they pinch ſome Part of the Ewe's Face, or Ear; for theſe Aliens are oftentimes very untoward, in ſuckling other Lambs than their own; thus when theſe Mothers-in-Law are ſucked, they are drove to the Field, and at twelve o'Clock

the

the Dams, or own Mothers, are brought home, and ſucked as they were at Eight of the Clock the laſt Night, by all the three Sorts of Lambs, that are turned into the Sheep-houſe promiſcuouſly, except the youngeſt Lambs of all, as I before obſerved; and after they have been ſucked and examined, and their Udders cleared of all Milk, the Lambs are ſeparated, and returned every one to their own proper Pen, and the Dams drove to the Field. At Four of the Clock in the Afternoon, the Sucklers are brought Home again, and ſuckled by the two eldeſt Parcels of Lambs, for the youngeſt Sort of all ſuck none but their own Dams, or Mothers, for the firſt Fortnight or three Weeks, as aforeſaid. Then at Eight o'Clock at Night the Dams are brought from the Field, and lie with the Lambs, till next Morning, as I have before given an Account of. I am likewiſe to obſerve to my Reader, that in Suckling the two Sorts of oldeſt Lambs, the Shepherd has always one large Hurdle, with a little Door made in the Middle of it, to keep the Ewes confined to one Part of the Sheep-houſe, or Room, and as the Ewes are let out of this Door, and ſucked off, he moves this Hurdle further in, to keep the unſuck'd Ewes the cloſer together, that they may not have Room to run about; for the leſs they ſtir, the leſs they'll waſte their Milk. Again, I am further to obſerve, to my Reader, that though I here mention a Boy, Aſſiſtant to the Shepherd, it is becauſe of this large Number of ſuckling Ewes, for ſuch an Aſſiſtant is not allowed but upon an extraordinary Account. One good Shepherd is very capable of ſuckling and managing an Hundred Milch Ewes, or more, alone, provided a Perſon is employed in the Field to pick up Turnips, and remove and ſhift the Hurdles that part thoſe Turnips that have been fed on, and thoſe that have not.

Mr. Bradley's *Account of Suckling Houſe-Lambs.*----At Page 167, in his firſt Volume, or general Treatiſe of Huſbandry, *&c.* he ſays, it is firſt proper to explain ſome few Terms which are neceſſary to be uſed, and which, perhaps, may not be underſtood in every County. Firſt, Baſtard-Ewes, in *Surry*, he ſays, are thoſe Ewes which ſuckle the Lambs of other Ewes, or have loſt their own. Secondly, Baſtard-Lambs, are ſuch Lambs as have loſt their Dams, and ſuck upon other Ewes. Thirdly, Tod-Belly, is when a Lamb is thin-bellied, like a Greyhound, or cling'd up. Fourthly, To ſuck-at-Head, is a young Lamb's Sucking the firſt Milk. Now with Regard to the Houſe for Lambs, it ought to be divided into Stalls, that every Lamb may be more conveniently

veniently ſuckled, and Care ought to be taken, that too many Lambs are not put into one Houſe at a Time, leſt they fall diſtempered, and become Set, or Tod-bellied; to prevent which, alſo, Care muſt be taken, that what Milk the youngeſt Lambs leave, if any, may be ſuck'd by the eldeſt Lambs. If you have any Baſtard-Ewes, ſuckle the eldeſt Lambs, beginning about Seven in the Morning, and about Four in the Afternoon, and when the Baſtard-Ewes have Milk enough to ſuckle all your Lambs thereon, then put in the Dams only at Noon, and between Nine and Ten at Night, and out again between Nine and Ten in the Morning. To avoid Miſtakes, which might happen in the ſuckling of many Lambs, we muſt mark them, to know which has been longeſt in Suck, on the Baſtard-Ewes, and thoſe which have been long at ſuck, are to ſuck ſtill at-Head. As ſoon as poſſible, let your Ewes Udders and Tails be clipt from the Wool, to keep them clean from Dirt they are apt to gather in the Houſe. When thoſe which ſuck-at-Head, on the Baſtard-Ewes, have had their Meal, put on thoſe Lambs which you deſign next to ſuck-at-Head, to ſuck thoſe Ewes clean of their Milk. Obſerve, if you have any Twin-Lambs, or Dams that give little Milk, help them on the Baſtard-Ewes. Feed your Lambs on Flour, Wheat, or White-Peaſe, in Troughs, and with Wheat-Straw in Racks, and ſometimes fine Hay, but Straw is better for the Colour of their Fleſh. Thus far Mr. *Bradley*.

The Qualifications neceſſary in a Shepherd that is hired to ſuckle Houſe-Lambs.—THIS Sort of Servant, in ſome large ſuckling Farms, is accounted the beſt, or next beſt, neceſſary Servant a Farmer has, and accordingly has Wages allowed him. It is true, that as a Ploughman is commonly Seedſman withal, there is little Difference in the Wages of him and the Shepherd. In a large Farm that has much Ploughing, and Suckling of Lambs, the common Wages, of either, is ſix or more Pounds a Year, in *Hertfordſhire*; and I am of Opinion, that a right true Servant, of both Sorts, where there is full Buſineſs for them, is better worth Ten Pounds a Year, than ſome ignorant, negligent ones, are of Half that Money; for if a ſuckling Shepherd is a lazy Fellow in riſing early, careleſs of ſuckling his Lambs in due Time, and ſo in ſeveral other Branches of this his Undertaking, he may cauſe a ſuckling Farmer to loſe Money inſtead of getting any. But if he is a diligent, vigilant Servant, he will riſe time enough to drive the Ewe Dams to the Field, at Four

Four or Five of the Clock, every Morning, Winter and Summer, and when he drives them, he will take care they travel gently; for as ſome Fields, in ſome Farms, lie near Half a Mile from the Houſe, and the Ground is of the gravelly Sort, if thoſe Sheep are drove too faſt, and too near together, their Feet will ſoon have the deſtructive Foot-Rot, and their Bodies ſurfeited to a dangerous ſcabby Degree, and which perhaps will not only cauſe the Ewes to loſe their Milk apace, but bring them under a Hazard of loſing their Lives, and prevent their Lambs fatting. A good Shepherd will move his Row of Hurdles, and give his Ewes a freſh Bite of Clover, or other artificial Graſs, or green Thetches, or Rapes, or Turnips, or Rye, in due Time; he will overſee his Fields, and ſtop up all Gaps in Hedges, before any of his Sheep get out into neighbouring Fields, and always prevent them doing any Damage, that may bring his Maſter under any Expence; he will pick up thoſe offal Turnips that the Sheep leave behind them, as they advance in feeding on freſh ones, and force them to eat their Leavings. He will, alſo, give the Ewes and Lambs their Meat and Litter enough, at Home, in right Seaſon. He will inſpect his Ewes Bodies, to ſee if, in hot Weather, there be any Maggots bred on them; if they have, he'll apply a proper Remedy to deſtroy them, or elſe they will deſtroy the Sheep. He muſt be one that has Judgment enough to know if his Ewes have Milk enough, to fat the Number of Lambs that ſuck on them, and when they are fat enough to ſell, he ſhould be one that has Knowledge enough to buy in right ſound Sheep, and to ſell them off when they are worn out, and unfit for further Service. A good Shepherd ſhould be one that underſtands how to relieve and help a Ewe that is under a Difficulty of Lambing, for it often happens, that thoſe Ewes, in particular, that feed on Turnips, have overgrown Lambs, and then they generally require manual Operation to bring forward the Lamb, otherwiſe the Length of Pain may ſo fatigue the Ewe as to kill her. Again, it may happen that a Ewe has received ſome Damage by creeping through a Hedge, or by fighting with another Ewe, or by the Puſh of a Cow's Horn, or otherways. In any of theſe Caſes, a Shepherd's timely Skill and Help may ſave that Ewe and her Lamb, that without ſuch Aſſiſtance might have died.

Of Buying in Ewes to ſuckle, and of ſelling them off when they are ſo worn out as to be unfit for further Service, and of keeping right Rams.-----It does not ſuit the Conveniency of

a ſuckling Farmer to breed his own Ewes, becauſe the Meat that muſt be employed to bring them up, would be neceſſary for feeding the ſuckling Ewes to a greater Profit; and as there are no Ewes ſo valuable, for the Service of a ſuckling Farmer, as the *Dorſetſhire* Breed are, it is moſtly to his Intereſt to buy this Sort, as they are the very beſt of Twin Sheep, I mean for bringing Twin Lambs; for in this one Branch, lies the main Part of a ſuckling Farmer's Gain. For that ſuckling Farmer whoſe Ewes do not bring Twin Lambs, is ſhort of his Buſineſs, at leaſt, if Half or Three Quarters of their Number do not do it, and this twice a Year; for herein, as I ſaid, is a chief Part of his Profit. And for this Reaſon it is, that the Weſt-Country Farmers make it their Buſineſs to keep Rams and Ewes that bring theſe Twin-Lambs, by which the ſuckling Farmer is at the Charge of keeping but fifty Ewes, for having an hundred Lambs; and to help him in ſuckling ſuch a Number, he takes Care to provide himſelf, in Time, with a ſufficient Number of Alien or Baſtard Ewes, or Mothers-in-Law to ſupport the Dams, or own Mothers with Milk enough for the Purpoſe; and when a ſuckling Farmer is once Maſter of a Flock of ſuch *Dorſetſhire* white-faced Ewes, that bring Twin Lambs, he ought to keep them up in the beſt of Living, for giving the moſt Milk and for cauſing them to take Ram, Time enough to bring Lambs twice a Year; the firſt Time between *Michaelmas* and *Chriſtmas*, and for theſe Reaſons he buys in two-toothed, or better, four-toothed Ewes, in order to breed Twin-Lambs, and to continue breeding and ſuckling for three or four Years, before they are worn out; for theſe Twin Breeders ſeldom laſt longer than that Time in right Order, therefore the ſuckling Farmer commonly ſells them off to other Farmers, when they are got full-mouthed Sheep, to breed more Lambs for their Fold Uſe, or to fat for the Butcher before they become broken-mouthed by Age. But to have a true Breed of Twin-Lambs continued, every ſuckling Farmer ſhould not be wanting in having a Ram of the ſame Twin-Breed; a Ram that ſhould have a white Face, white Legs, white Feet, and in ſhort all over white, with wide Loins, ſtrong tailed, and without Horns; ſuch a Ram ſhould be bought in at two or three Years old at fartheſt; and if a Farmer keeps about an hundred of theſe Weſt-Country ſuckling Ewes, he ſhould alſo keep two or three Rams of the Sort I have deſcribed. Rams ſhould be kept from the Dam Suckling Ewes, till their Lambs are ſold off, elſe they may take Ram too ſoon. That

is,

is, if the Dam Ewes ſhould take Ram quickly after they have lamb'd, it would leſſen their Milk too ſoon; therefore, if thoſe Ewes that lamb'd in *October* or *November*, take Ram in *December* or *January*, they may lamb in *April* or *May*, to the Farmer's beſt Profit; for a Ewe goes one and twenty Weeks in Lamb.

The Management of Ewes Lambing in a Field, and of the ſeveral Conveniences attending a Shepherd's four-wheel, wooden, moveable Hutt, as it is kept in a Field.----WEST Country Ewes are many of them brought up, and bought for Sucklers, between *Michaelmas* and *Chriſtmas*, ſome in Lamb, others with Lambs by their Sides, that were lamb'd in Travelling, or which are very young indeed; thoſe that are to lamb, when bought by a ſuckling Farmer, are generally lamb'd abroad. If a Plough-Farmer has any Meadow belonging to his Farm, he commonly lets his Ewes go here for their Lambing the drier, and here are let to remain two or three Days, or a Week, if the Weather is mild; but if otherwiſe, they then bring the Lambs directly into the Houſe, which they account better Management than to let their Ewes lamb in a dirty ploughed Field, that might endanger the Lives of the Lambs. Ewes, as I have before obſerved, are liable to many hurtful Accidents, eſpecially when they feed in incloſed Fields. A Ewe, of a ſuckling Farmer, dying this Summer, 1747, beſides ſeveral others, when ſhe was dead, they opened her and found two dead Lambs rotted in her Belly; yet many Ewes have had their Lives ſaved by the Help of a timely manual Operation, which, as I ſaid, is the more neceſſary to be performed, where a Ewe is kept too well in Breeding Time, and the Lamb is thereby overgrown in her; or it may be occaſioned, by the over Largeneſs of a Lamb's Head, from a very great horned Ram, eſpecially to a narrow-made Sheep, that never had a Lamb before; and therefore ſome ſuckling Farmers keep the pole-headed, hornleſs, Ram, for the greater Security againſt this Evil. Again, it ſometimes happens, that a Ewe yeans its Lamb dead, or that it dies preſently after Lambing. In this Caſe, there is more than one Way to induce a Ewe to take an alien Lamb; one Way is to ſkin the dead Lamb, while it is warm, if it can be done, and to wrap and ſow its Skin about the Body of the live Lamb, to remain on it two or three Days. Another Way is to rub the Ewe's Milk over the alien Lamb. But the Practice now moſtly in uſe amongſt ſuckling Farmers, is to take a Twin Lamb, from another Sheep, and keep it in a Pen,

with the alien Ewe, (the younger it is the better) and after its Teat has been forced into the Lamb's Mouth, and thus ſuckled two or three Times, ſhe commonly is reconciled to it, and takes it as her own Lamb. But where a Ewe dies, and there is not another to ſuckle its Lamb, what muſt be done then? Why then, the laſt Shift, of Neceſſity, muſt be made uſe of, which is to get ſome Cow's Milk, and if it be a little ſweetned with Sugar, and made Milk-warm, the new-yeaned Lamb will take it out of a Pewter, or Wooden ſuckling Bootle, and by it may be brought up, as I have many Times been forced to do, for ſaving the Lives of ſuch Lambs. In *Hertfordſhire* and *Middleſex*, where the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs is perhaps more in Practice, than in all *England* beſide, the Shepherds are not obliged to watch the Ewes in the Night-Time abroad, in the lambing Seaſon, to prevent their Lambs being killed, and carried away by Foxes; for although this may (as is very uncommon) happen, yet the Damage on this Account is not ſo great here, as to cauſe a Shepherd to remain and watch in the Field all Night, purely for this Purpoſe, as it is every Year done in ſome Parts of the ſandy Counties of *Suffolk* and *Norfolk*, becauſe in theſe Counties, there are many Plantations of Broom and Furze, or Whinns, that for increaſing their Growth into bulky, high Stalks, to make them the better Fewel, they let them grow to ſeven, eight, or more Feet high, which gives ſuch ſecure Shelter and Protection to Foxes, that without ſuch watching their new yeaned Lambs, they would have them all deſtroyed by theſe Vermin. I know of but one Place in *Hertfordſhire*, where ſuch Watch is kept, and that is between St. *Albans* and the Town of *Hertford*, in ſome of the large Fields of a great Farm, where is a little, moveable, boarded Hutt, kept on four Wheels, that is eaſily drawn about, for a Shepherd to remain here in the Night-Time, as well as the Day, during the lambing Seaſon, not only for preventing any Damage by Foxes, but more for guarding the Sheep and Lambs from being hurt, and killed by Dogs, and for aiding and aſſiſting Ewes in the Difficulty of Lambing; for expeditiouſly reducing a Sheep, if hoved by feeding on Turnip Leaves, or on Clover, for bleeding a Sheep, in Time, that falls, or is like to fall, by a Plethory of Blood, and for the better hindring their Straying. To which I ſhall add the Words of an old Author, who on this Account ſays, if a Ewe grows unnatural, and will not take to her Lamb after ſhe has yeaned it, you ſhall take a little of the

Gleam

Glean of the Ewe, which is the Bed in which the Lamb lay, and force the Ewe to eat it, or at leaſt to chew it in her Mouth, and ſhe will fall in love naturally with it. But if a Ewe have caſt her Lamb, and you would have her take to another Ewe's Lamb, you ſhall take the Lamb that is dead, and with it rub and daub the live Lamb all over, and ſo put it to the Ewe and ſhe will take as much to it, as if it was her own; and if the Lamb is like to die, when it is juſt yeaned, open its Mouth and blow into it, and it ſeldom fails of recovering it. Or, ſays he, if a ſuckling Lamb falls ſick afterwards, one Remedy is to mix Half Rain-water with the Ewe's Milk, and give it the Lamb; but I think the other Author's Receipt, before mentioned, is a better one, that directs the Boiling of ſome Saffron, with ſome Cinnamon, in the Dam's Milk, and give it.

The Practice of a Widow Woman, who carries on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs, all the Year, for a London *Market.*---THIS Widow Farmer rents a Farm of arable Land, lying two and twenty Miles from *London*, and lives the furtheſt from this Metropolis of any ſuckling Farmer I know of; ſhe keeps ſixty Ewes, and only one large Ram. In the Year 1747, above forty of them brought Twin Lambs, and lamb'd twice a Year, though they are not all of the Twin Breed. One of our Pariſh Girls, that had lived with me, as an Aſſiſtant to my Maid Servant, was hired at *Hempſtead* Statute, to live with this Widow Farmer, who with the Help of her Son, and this Girl, (then fourteen Years old) carried on the Suckling of theſe ſixty Ewes, to good Profit, all the Year. But the Work was ſo hard, that in three Months Time after her Hiring, ſhe deſired to leave her Place, though ſhe loſt her Wages, and would have come away, had it not been for her Mother; for her Miſtreſs made the Girl drive the Sheep to and from a diſtant Field, by a common Road daily, and ſuckle the Lambs beſides, after ſhe had been taught how to do it, was always obliged to pick up the offal Turnips, in Fields, for the Sheep the better to come at, waſh, ſcour, and do all the Houſhold Work, which, with uſing a ſharp Spring-Water, ſo chopt her Hands, that Straws might be laid in them; however, as the Girl was a hardy-bred one, ſhe held her Place a whole Year, notwithſtanding ſhe had but forty Shillings a Year, and lived where they carried this ſuckling Buſineſs on all the Year, by the Feed of Turnips and Clover-Graſs.

The Practice of another Suckling Farmer.----THIS Farmer having natural Graſs-ground, as well as ploughed Ground, he is compleatly furniſhed for ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, becauſe he can feed his Ewes on artificial Graſs, or natural Graſs, or on Turnips, Rye, or Cole-Plants, by which Diverſity of Foods, the Ewes muſt conſequently keep in good Fleſh, in good Health, and yield the moſt Milk. This Man always had three Sorts of aged Lambs by him, fattening; the eldeſt had the firſt Head of Milk, the next aged followed, and the youngeſt had their Leavings. This Farmer never bled a Houſe-Lamb but once, and then he did it by cutting off a Bit of its Tail, and when he had a Mind it ſhould bleed no longer, he tied a Piece of Thread, or Shoemaker's End about it, and this he conſtantly did the Night before the Lamb was carried to Market, where if he made a Guinea of it, it was a top Price, indeed, for the general Price was fifteen or ten Shillings; then when the Ewes own Lambs are ſold off, they become alien Ewes, or Mothers-in-Law, as they uſually call them. This Farmer's Way is to give the Lambs freſh Wheat-Straw, twice a Day, in a Rack, and what they leave is taken out, and ſerves to litter them with. By the Opportunity of a Farmer having ploughed and Meadow Ground, he has the Advantage of that Farmer who only ſuckles on Meadow Graſs, and this in ſeveral Branches. The Meadow Farmer is obliged to ſhut up his Meadow in *April* at fartheſt, and then to give over ſuckling, ſo that it is about *Michaelmas* before he can begin again to ſuckle, on his after-meath Graſs. Then if his Ewes are not forward enough in Lamb, he muſt buy in the Weſtern Sort, in Lamb, or with Lambs by their Sides, and pay a good Price, even, perhaps, above a Guinea a-piece; however, their forward Lambs make partly Amends, by ſelling, in *November*, for near twenty Shillings a-piece; for, as the Winter and Spring advances, both Ewes and Lambs ſell cheaper. A fat Lamb, before *Chriſtmas*, will ſell for fifteen, or more Shillings, when one in *February*, *March*, or *April*, will fetch hardly more than ten or twelve; however, if a ſuckling Farmer manages well, he need not fear ſelling his Lambs, all the Year, one with another, for ten, twelve, or fourteen Shillings a-piece, at ſeven, eight, or nine Weeks old, or more.

How to have a Breed of Twin Lambs, for carrying on the Suckling Buſineſs, to the greateſt Profit, without Buying Dorſetſhire *Ewes.*----THIS is what is nicely obſerved by ſuckling Farmers of Houſe-Lambs, becauſe this entitles them to almoſt

a double Profit; and to come by it in the ſureſt Manner, they willingly give an extraordinary Price, for, as I ſaid, the right *Dorſetſhire* Sort of Ewes, that may bring Twin Lambs. But for not being obliged to buy always the *Dorſetſhire* Breed, they reckon, that the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs, and keeping them in a Houſe, ſome Part of the Day, from the Ewes, cauſes them, with the Help of a Twin-bred Ram, to have Twin Lambs. Or, take it thus; if a Ewe is of the ſingle Breed, and a Ram of a Twin-Breed, the Ewes will have Twin Lambs; or, if a Ewe is of the Twin-Breed, and a Ram of a ſingle Breed, the Ewe will be apt to have Twin Lambs. Alſo, they obſerve, if a Ewe grows dry and barren, ſhe is ſeparated from the reſt of the Flock, and put to fatting; and it is very remarkable, that no Sheep fat faſter than ſuch a barren Ewe.

The Benefit of Bleeding Houſe-Lambs.....THE Bleeding of Houſe-Lambs is thought to be ſo neceſſary an Action, that no ſuckling Farmer omits it, becauſe by this, they make a Lamb pleaſe the Eye of a Butcher the better, in cauſing it to ſhew a white Gum; for if this Sign does not appear, they imagine the Fleſh of the Lamb will be of a reddiſh Colour, and then the Butcher will either refuſe buying it, or give the leſs Money for it. Hence it is, that ſuckling Farmers employ their utmoſt Skill, and Care, to do every Thing that may contribute to the Whitening of the Lamb's Fleſh; and to this End they give them the ſeveral Sorts of Trough-Meat hereafter mentioned, and bleed them before they go to Market. The Widow Woman's Method is to cut off a Bit of the End of the Tail of each Lamb, and while it is bleeding the Cutter pats the Part, with the Handle of a Knife, till it bleeds ſufficiently, keeping the Legs of the Lamb tied faſt, while it is thus bleeding; and when they think they have taken enough away, they ſheer the Wool cloſe, under the Lamb's Belly, to its Navel, and to make the Place appear whiter, than it really is, they waſh it with Water mixed with powdered Chalk. But although this Widow Farmer followed this Practice, another Farmer diſſented from it, as being of Opinion, that bleeding a Lamb, only once, and then taking a pretty deal of Blood from it, was wrong, becauſe it weakned it, leſſened its Appetite, and damaged it; therefore he would not let once Bleeding ſerve, as the Widow does, but bleeds it twice, and takes but little Blood away each Time; as ſuppoſing, for Example, that four, or ſix Houſe-Lambs were to be carried to be ſold at *Smithfield*, on a *Monday*,

which

which is the Market-Day, he would then cut a Bit off the End of every Lamb's Tail, on the *Saturday* before; on the Morrow, alſo, he bleeds the ſame Lamb again, by cutting off another Bit of its Tail, as he did before, clips the Wool from about the Lamb's Cod, and the Night before he carries it away, he waſhes the Part with new Cow's Milk, or with ſome of the Ewe's Milk. Some let the Lamb bleed, without trying whether they think there is no Danger in it; but when there is, they tie only a ſingle Wheat Straw about the Tail's End, and is what is practiſed by one that keeps above an hundred ſuckling Ewes at a Time, and who always gives a Lamb as much Milk as he can, the Day and Night before it is carried away to Market. Others, again, obſerve to manage the Bleeding of a Lamb, by ſearing the End of the Tail with a hot iron, in caſe it bleeds very freely. So that here are three Sorts of Management in bleeding ſuckling Lambs; if it bleed ſlow, and little, they do nothing to it; if more, they tie it up with Packthread, or an End, or with a Straw; but if it bleed much, they ſear it; but in either Caſe they commonly let the Lamb bleed till it is white in the Gum, for bleeding is ſo eſſential toward cauſing the Fleſh to look white, that ſome Butchers, as ſoon as they have bought Houſe-Lambs, in *Smithfield*, will immediately cut a Bit off its Tail's End.

Of various Sorts of Trough-Meats, to be given to HOUSE-LAMBS, *while they are fatting for Market.*

HOUSE-Lambs require ſome other Aſſiſtance than what their Dams, or the Alien Ewes, give by daily ſuckling them; therefore, that Farmer, who carries on the ſuckling of Houſe-Lambs, without giving them dry Meat, in a Trough, I am certain cannot do it to Profit, becauſe the more they eat of this the leſs they'll ſuck; and the leſs they ſuck, the further the Sheep's Milk will go; beſides which, a proper Trough-Food not only becomes very agreeable to them, by Way of Change of Diet, but it, alſo, becomes very ſerviceable, on Account of its preventing their Scouring; for if Houſe-Lambs are taken with a Scouring, it backwards their Fattening; and for ought I know, a violent Scouring may become contagious, and one Lamb may infect many. Wherefore

fore it has employed the Study of many to invent ſuch a Trough-Meat, for feeding ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, as will the moſt expeditiouſly conduce to their Fattening, and to the Whitening of their Fleſh; and it is to theſe two valuable Ends, the following experienced Receipts are offered for the greater Choice of thoſe who fancy one better than another.

The firſt Receipt for compoſing a Trough-Meat, to feed fattening Houſe-Lambs with.--ABOUT *Watford*, and ſome other Parts in *Hertfordſhire*, ſeveral Farmers mix fine Oatmeal with fine Powder of Chalk, and put it freſh and freſh into Troughs, that always ſtand fixt before the Lambs, for them to feed on at their Will.

A ſecond Receipt.----OTHERS think it better to give whole Oats, in a Mixture with powdered Chalk.

A third Receipt.----I KNOW a Farmer that lives about two Miles from *Hempſtead*, in *Hertfordſhire*, that prefers the Feed of Blue Peaſe, to all other Trough-Meat, believing that as this Sort is ſofter than any other Sort of Peaſe, they are more nouriſhing than the white, the grey, and all others; therefore he gives a few of theſe blue ones, in a Trough, at a Time, without mixing them with any Thing elſe.

A fourth Receipt.------AT *Hendon*, in *Middleſex*, where they ſuckle Houſe-Lambs, that ſuck on Ewes, that are always kept on natural Graſs, they mix Pollard with fine powdered Chalk, and give it in a Trough, as thinking this Mixture a very agreeable Sort; but now and then add a few Oats.

A fifth Receipt.---AT *Hendon*, aforeſaid, another Farmer is of Opinion, that a Mixture of Flour of Wheat, with Oats, is a better Feed.

A ſixth Receipt.--A GREAT ſuckling Farmer, near *Rickmanſworth*, in *Hertfordſhire*, gives his ſuckling Houſe-Lambs clean, ſmall White Peaſe of the *Eſſex* Roading Sort, in a Trough alone, and ſometimes he mixes powdered Chalk with them, and ſometimes Barley-Meal; but of late he has left off giving them any Barley-Meal, becauſe it is apt to ſtick in their Teeth. Once a Day he gives a Parcel of theſe White Peaſe.

A ſeventh Receipt,- --As practiſed by a ſuckling Farmer, who lives about two and twenty Miles diſtant from *London*; he gives whole White Peaſe, in a Trough, mixt with long Bran; and Pieces of Chalk, beſides, are laid for the Lambs to come at, to lick, and eat; and ſometimes he has the Peaſe broke, or ſplit, firſt.

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An eighth Receipt.----- ANOTHER gives their ſuckling Houſe-Lambs whole Wheat in a Trough, and for Change now and then ſome blue Peaſe.

A ninth Receipt.----ANOTHER gives ground Malt, ſifted and mixed with Pollard, in a Trough.

Of Diſeaſes that Houſe-Lambs are ſubject to.----THERE are more than two Diſeaſes that Houſe-Lambs are ſubject to, while they are kept and ſuckled in a Houſe; one is a ſore Mouth, occaſioned by the Lamb's licking the Bricks of a Wall, or naſty Boards, near the Pen, or Coop it is confin'd in, which Naſtineſs is very agreeable to theſe Creatures; therefore their Pen ſhould be placed free of this Danger; or, it may be bred by a foul Pen, when it has too much Dung in it, or, by Lambs lying too cloſe to one another; but let it happen how it will, it is of ill Conſequence to the Farmer, becauſe it hinders the Lamb's fattening; and if it was fat before, the Pain of its Mouth will backen it, and ſoon bring it into a lean Condition, if not kill it; and on this very Account, I have heard a ſuckling Farmer ſay, it was better to knock the firſt ſore-mouth'd Lamb on the Head, than to let it live, for that a Lamb's ſore Mouth, when it is ſcabby in a great Degree, is catching, and may infect many more it lies among. Hence it is, that to prevent this Miſchief, a prudent Farmer takes due Care to have Pieces of Chalk at the Bottom of his Straw Rack, for the Lambs to lick and nibble at Pleaſure. Others will have Pieces of fat Chalk hung pendant within the Reach of the Lamb's Mouth, beſides giving them Powder of Chalk, in Troughs, in order to whiten and ſweeten their Fleſh, create them an Appetite for ſucking the more Milk, and keep them in Health. But in caſe a Lamb ſhould come by a ſore Mouth, there is no Reaſon it ſhould be knock'd on the Head, becauſe this Malady may be eaſily cured, if a Remedy is applied in Time; I mean ſuch an one, that I ſhall preſently preſent my Reader with; but before I do it, I have here further to add, that Houſe-Lambs are very apt to be troubled with what we call a Foot-Rot, an Evil they catch of their Dams, by means of the Pus, or Corruption, that iſſues from their ſore Feet, and is by the Lambs ſucking them and touching their Feet, received on the Hoofs, or Feet, of the Lambs, and thus the Infection is oftentimes taken, to the Farmer's Prejudice; for Lambs ſo diſtempered ſuffer much Pain, while the Sore is breeding, and after it is bred, and diſcharges Corruption; which, if not cured, will aſſuredly rot off the Foot of the Lamb.

How

How to cure a Houſe-Lamb's ſore Mouth.---As ſoon as the Lamb's Mouth is perceived to be ſore and ſcabby, then mix Gunpowder, Salt, and Water together, pretty thick, and rub the Inſide and Outſide of its Mouth well, and if Occaſion be repeat it, and it will prove a Cure.—Here then is a Receipt that may ſave a great Deal of Damage to a ſuckling Farmer, for as the ſore Mouth of a Lamb is eaſily diſcover'd, and this Remedy applied in Time, there is no Occaſion for knocking a Lamb on the Head, to prevent others catching the ſame Diſtemper. But this wrong Notion, (if I am not miſtaken) before this Receipt was diſcovered, took Place, becauſe they were at a Loſs for a right Remedy, and now it is known to almoſt all ſuckling Farmers in *Hertfordſhire*, they cure this Malady with very little Trouble and Charge. But as to the Cure of the Foot-Rot, in ſuckling Ewes, and Houſe-Lambs, I muſt refer my Reader to the Knowledge of it, in my third and laſt Book of this *Shepherd's Guide*. Others ſay, that a ſore Mouth of a Houſe-Lamb is occaſioned by the frothy Milk that is left about its Chaps, which ſoon breeds the Scab, for the Cure of which they pick off the Scab, and ſcrape it off, and then rub the Place with Salt till it bleeds, which at twice doing generally cures.

This Author's Notion what will prevent a Houſe-Lamb having a ſore Mouth, increaſe its Appetite, and cauſe it to have white Fleſh.----As Houſe-Lambs muſt be kept in Pens, or Coops, or in other Places of Confinement, to prevent their running about, and waſting their Fleſh, *&c.* the Walls, or Boards, that incloſe them, muſt neceſſarily be dirtied, daub'd and ſtain'd, by the Greaſe or Oil of their Wools, by their Stale, and by their Dung, *&c.* and ſo the Rack that holds their Straw, and the Trough that contains their powdered Chalk, or other Meat, are likewiſe expoſed to the ſame Inconveniencies. Now as there is no hindering the Lambs having Acceſs to theſe Parts, and as they naturally love to lick them, they conſequently will be more or leſs affected by the Quality of ſuch Naſtineſs, that they ſo lick and take into their Bodies, and as ſuch Filth is daily increaſed, in Time, the Walls, or Boards, the Rack, and the Trough, muſt lodge on them a Quantity of tartarous, ſaline, poiſonous Matter, which being thus received, from Time to Time, by the Lambs licking it, it very probably may infect the Blood of them, cauſe them a ſore Mouth, Loſs of Appetite, and other Illneſſes; yet as apparently detrimental as this muſt, in Courſe, be to the Beaſts, I do not know, that any ſuckling

Farmer takes a proper Method to prevent the Evil; wherefore I have thought it neceſſary, here, to advance my Notion of a Method, not only to prevent the deſtructive Effects of ſuch a plaiſtick Naſtineſs, but, alſo, to make it become a very ſerviceable Aſſiſtant, that will greatly contribute to the cleanſing and refining the Blood of the Lamb, increaſe its Appetite, and tend very much to the Whitening of the Fleſh of it; for many Lambs have a vitiated Blood from their Parent Ewe, or Ram, or both, which requires to be amended by more than common Trough-Meat, and Bleeding. Bleeding, it's true, will make the Fat of the Lamb appear whiter than ordinary; but if it has not a white Fleſh, by Nature, it will die ſomewhat with a reddiſh Fleſh, unleſs it is help'd by Art. Therefore, I adviſe all ſuckling Farmers, to make a Waſh that may anſwer this profitable End, in the following Manner, *viz.* Take ſome fat Chalk, and dry it, beat it to a fine Powder, then put it into a Pail of Water, and when it is well ſtirred together, into the Conſiſtence of a White-Waſh, ſuch as the Plaiſterers make uſe of, put into it a Quantity, at Diſcretion, of powdered Rue, ſo made, by being firſt dried and rubbed into a Powder; this done, with a Bruſh, waſh and beſmear every Part of the Walls, Boards, Troughs, Racks and Hurdles, that ſtand in and about the Place where the Lambs are kept; and thus by their licking this Mixture, they will receive the ſeveral Advantages by it, before-mentioned.

The Damage that one, or more Grubs, or Worms, do to a ſuckling Ewe, when they lie at the Bottom of its Horn.---At Page 203, of this Book, I promiſed to give a further Account of Maggots or Worms, that lie under a Sheep's Horns; which to do, I have to ſay, that this is a more common Malady than moſt People are aware of; for although it is not viſible, there are Thouſands of Sheep troubled with them, ſome whereof pine for Pain and grow lean, others are in horrid Torment, and ſhew it by biting their very Legs, and theſe are the Reaſons that many ſuckling Ewes can hardly be made to ſtand ſtill, while they are ſuckling, and no Wonder it is ſo, ſince the Beaſt is eaten alive. When this is the Caſe, I know a ſuckling Farmer that gives them over for dead Sheep, as deſpairing of their Recovery, for want of knowing how to apply a proper Remedy; wherefore, if ſuch an one ſhould buy this Book, and practiſe the Receipt, I have given at Page 205, for curing this grievous Malady, it is very probable he may be no little Gainer by it.

This Author's Notion what will prevent the Breed of Grubs or Worms, at the Bottom of Sheeps Horns.-----If this Evil could be prevented, there would be no Occaſion for the Charge, Hazard, Trouble, and other Damage, that ſometimes happens by Sheep having Grubs, or Worms, at the Bottom of their Horns, which, I think, may be effected, if proper Meaſures are taken for it; for let us conſider, from whence comes the Breed of ſuch Horn-Worms, or Grubs. If my Opinion is founded on Reaſon, I think they muſt proceed from the bad Blood of the Sheep, as many of them feed on naſty, foul Ground, and in ſo feeding, are ſubject to take poiſonous Inſects into their Bellies, and by this the Blood of the Creature may become infected with their poiſonous Juices, which circulating, with the Blood, may probably furniſh it with a vermicular Quality, that may terminate in the Breed of Grubs, or Worms, in that Part of the Creature, which is moſt ſuitable to their Purpoſe, and this may be at the Bottom of the Sheep's Horn, becauſe here the Sun and warm Air have a quick Acceſs, and becauſe the Cavities of the Head may be the moſt proper Places for their Breed and Reſidence; therefore, I here propoſe a Remedy, for preventing this Evil, and that is, To give your Sheep now and then ſome Trough Meat in Winter, and Spring, compoſed of Chaff, and Bran, and powdered Rue. If this Powder is mixt with any Sort of Trough Meat, I think it will ſo cleanſe their Blood of all vermicular Qualities, as to prevent the Breed of theſe Reptiles.--Or, if you do not think fit of this, you may make uſe of my Rue drenching Liquor, according to the Receipt, in my third and laſt Book. But of Grubs, or Worms, under the Horns of Sheep, ſee more, Page 271.

A Trick practiſed by ſome ſuckling Farmers, to make Graſs-Lambs ſell for Houſe-Lambs.----THIS Trick has been more in Practice formerly than at this Time, when Houſe-Lambs ſold at a greater Price than they do now, and when the Bite was not ſo much diſcovered as it is at this Day. Then they let a Lamb go with its Ewe abroad, grazing, for a Month together, at the End of which Time, a Farmer would take ſuch a Lamb into the Houſe, and ſuckle it as a Houſe-Lamb, for he could deceive a Butcher's Judgment, by the Hooſs of the Lamb, that would acquire a whitiſh Colour, by walking in the Field; but after it has been a little while houſed, they grow blackiſh, and ſo 'tis taken and bought for a Lamb that has been ſuckled in a Houſe, from three or four Days

or a Week old, as it ought to be, if a ſuckling Farmer does the Right of the Thing, though it's more Charge and Trouble to him ſo to do, than when he lets a Lamb live with its Ewe abroad, for a Month, before he takes it into the Houſe; and to gloſs this Trick over with the better Face, the ſuckling Farmer rubs the Hoofs of ſuch a Graſs and Houſe-Lamb, with ſome of its Dung, for giving them the blacker Colour; ſo that this is a Bite both on the Butcher and his Cuſtomer, for that ſuch a mongrel-fed Lamb's Fleſh, cannot be ſo ſweet and delicate, as that Lamb which is ſuckled in a Houſe, from three or four Days old.

Graſs Ewes, and Lambs, bought in May, 1748, *by a Plough Farmer, living in* Ardenham *Pariſh, near* Watford, *for carrying on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs.*--THE twentieth Day of *May*, ſeveral Graſs Ewes, with their young Lambs by their Side, were bought at *Hempſtead*, by the Plough Farmer, aforeſaid, in order to carry on his Suckling of Houſe-Lambs, and, at the ſame Time, he gave Orders to a Friend of his, to ſearch about our Country, and buy ſome more Couples, provided the Lambs had been newly fell'd, and he would give at the Rate of four Shillings, in twenty, more than the common Price, for ſuch Graſs Ewes and Lambs; the Reaſon of which is, becauſe now, the Farmer's own old Stock of Houſe-Lambs were fatted and ſold off, and their Ewes now remain in Lamb; therefore, theſe Cuckoo, or new fallen Lambs, come in, at a right Time, to ſupply their Place, and enable the Farmer to continue ſuckling and ſelling his fat Houſe-Lambs, for ten, fifteen, or twenty Shillings a-piece. But the Tails of ſuch Graſs-Lambs muſt not be cut by their Sellers, as is uſually done, becauſe the ſuckling Farmer cuts them hereafter, for bleeding them to his Mind. A Ewe Lamb is worth a Shilling more than a Ram Lamb for this Purpoſe.----They never geld Houſe-Lambs.

Ewes ſent into Eſſex, *to feed in the Summer-time, in order for their being brought home into* Middleſex, *to lamb about* Michaelmas, *for carrying on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs in the following Winter.*-----THIS is practiſed but by few, and thoſe who do it are chiefly *Middleſex* Farmers, who, after ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, till about *April*, are obliged to ſhut up their Meadows for mowing Graſs; for Hay, in theſe Parts, pays the greateſt Part of their Rent; then it is that ſome of the abler Sort ſend their Ewes into the Hundreds of *Eſſex*, to be kept in their rich, marſhy Land, till near *Michaelmas*, when they are fetch'd Home, in full Fleſh, and big in

in Lamb, for carrying on the Buſineſs of ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, for a *London* Market. But the poorer Farmer contents himſelf to let his dry Ewes take their Chance, and live as well as they can, in ſome of their graſſy Lanes, and other Places, till *October* or *November*, when they hope to have Lambs from them, to carry on a Winter's Suckling of them in the Houſe, by their living in their Meadows and on Hay.

The Practice of a Sheep-Dealer, living at Lay-Hill, *near* Cheſham, *in* Buckinghamſhire; *in ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, for a* London-*Market.-LAY-HILL*, I think, lies about four and twenty Miles from *London*, where lived a ſmall Farmer that ſuckled Houſe-Lambs, for eight, or nine Years together, at different Seaſons. He commonly began ſuckling about *Allhallontide*, and ended at *Whitſuntide*, becauſe, he ſays, Graſs-Lambs come then in Plenty, and make Houſe-Lambs of little Value. He firſt fed his Ewes with Turnips, and after they were eaten off, he fed them on with Rye and Oats, that were ſown together, between Harveſt and *Michaelmas*; and after this green Meat was eaten off, he fed them on Clover. Some, he ſays, ſow Thetches at *Michaelmas*, to eat them green, in the Spring, for this Purpoſe.----As to the Trough-Meat that he fed his Houſe-Lambs with, he boiled whole Wheat, and put it into a Trough, then ſprinkled Wheat Flour over it, and the Lambs would eat it apace; he ſays, he never could find any Trough-Meat exceed this, and he has tried Barley-Meal mixed with Gin, and cram'd the Lambs with it, and ſo other Things; but having near killed one Lamb, with his Crams, he ſoon gave it over. This Wheat-Trough-Meat conſiſts in two Things, one, that it fats with Expedition, and the other, that as it is a ſoft Meat, it produces a ſoft Fleſh, which is one great Means to tempt a Butcher to buy a Houſe-Lamb; for if the Fleſh of it feels hard, as it does when fed with White-Peaſe, they don't ſo well like it; but when it feels ſoftiſh, they account it a Sign that the Lamb will die with whitiſh Fleſh.----Then he takes a little Blood, from each Lamb, the Day and Night before he carries them to Market, by cutting off a Bit of its Tail, and does the ſame at the *Roſe*, or *Ram-Inn* in *Smithfield*, juſt before he expoſes them to Sale, and never does more than tie the End of it with a Straw.

The Practice of a Farmer, living near Watford, *in* Hertfordſhire, *in his Management of ſuckling Houſe-Lambs.*---As I am, this Year, 1748, Surveyor of our Highways, I was in Company with another Surveyor, at our Seſſions, at *Hemp-*

ſtead,

ſtead, who told me, he occupies but twenty Acres of plow'd Land, the reſt of his Farm lies in Graſs, which gives him an Opportunity to ſuckle fifty Ewes for fatting Houſe-Lambs; and told me, that Oatmeal is a good Trough-Meat for helping out Milk and fattening the Lambs; but objects, and ſays, it's too dear a Feed, therefore, he has tried Wheat, and given it in a Trough, as it comes roughly ground from the Mill, with the Bran in it; and when he gives this, he puts ſome whole Wheat among it; for, as he ſays, if whole Wheat is given alone, it will cauſe the Lambs to ſcour, and if they ſcour, unleſs a Remedy will preſently ſtop it, the Profit is generally loſt; which to do, here follows the Receipt, he has a long Time experienced, as the beſt he ever heard of.

An excellent Receipt to ſtop an Houſe-Lamb's Scouring.---- THIS ſuckling Farmer aſſures me, that he preſently ſtops a Lamb's Scouring, by parching ſome Horſe-Beans, in a Shovel, over the Fire, and when they are got dry enough, he then beats them to a Powder, and gives the Powder in Milk to the Lamb, which not only ſtops the Scouring, but nouriſhes it beſides.

Four Lambs, at a Time, from one Ewe, kept to breed and ſuckle Houſe-Lambs.--ABOUT the Beginning of *December*, 1746, a ſuckling Farmer, that lives at *Corner-Hall*, near *Hempſtead*, in *Hertfordſhire*, had four Lambs fell from one Ewe, and all of them lived to make fat Lambs, by ſuckling them on ſeveral Sheep; and at another Time he has had three from one Ewe, and commonly two. I have, alſo, been informed, that at *Norcot* Farm, on *Northchurch* Common, a Store Sheep had three Lambs, the firſt Year, four, the ſecond, and four the third Year, eleven in all, and that all were brought up well, by one Means or other. To have a right Twin-Breed, a Ram-Lamb and Ewe-Lamb muſt be ſaved from a Ewe that brings both at once.

Hedge-Hog, how it ſucks Ewes that are kept to ſuckle Houſe-Lambs, the Damage thereof, and how it is cured.—IN *Hertfordſhire*, I believe, we have more Hedge-Hogs than in any other one County in *England*, becauſe our Fields are moſtly incloſed with Hedges, by which, with the many Woods and Spinneys that we have beſides, theſe Vermin have great Shelter, and Encouragement to increaſe their Breed, to the Damage of our Cows and Sheep; for a Hedge-Hog will ſuck either, if he has an Opportunity. The Farmer, at *Corner-Hall*, above-mentioned, has every now and then a Ewe

ſucked

ſucked by a Hedge-Hog, that takes the Advantage of the Sheep's lying down to ſuck one of her Teats, which it draws with ſuch Vehemency, and hurts it ſo, with its ſharp Teeth, that the Teat becomes preſently ſore, and the Udder ſwells, nor will the Lamb meddle with that Teat, till it has got thoroughly well. Which to cure, make uſe of the following Receipt.

A Receipt to cure the Sucking, or Bite, of a Hedge-Hog.--BOIL Soap, Salt, and Stale together, and rub it on the Teat, and Udder, pretty hot; this repeat now and then, for the Hedge-Hog ſo venoms the Teat, that it quickly ſcabs, and will not be healed preſently; for it is ſometimes near a Month before the Teat and Udder are cured, nor will a Lamb touch it, till it is entirely cured.

Hedge-Hog, how he carries Crabs to his Hole.--A HEDGE-Hog has been ſeen about four o'Clock in a Morning to roll on Crabs, and carry a Parcel of them, on his Prickles, to his Rendezvous, or Hole, in the Stump of a Tree. And I have been credibly informed, that a Hedge-Hog was catch'd in the Act of ſucking a Cow's Milk from a large Vein, that under its Belly leads to the Udder, and feeds it with Milk; and that the Hedge-Hog was ſo eager of ſucking it, as the Cow lay down, that the Man who diſcovered it plucked the Hedge-Hog off.

A further Account of Worms, Maggots, or Grubs, ſhewing how they have been ſeen to come out of a Sheep's Noſtrils, by ſneezing.--A VALE Shepherd, that has likewiſe lived in the Chiltern Country, tells me, that he has known many Sheep die in the Vale, by theſe Grubs or Worms, but hardly any in the Chiltern Country; and he aſſigns this Reaſon for it: In Vales, ſays he, our black, loamy, marly Land is ſometimes, by Gluts of Rain, brought into a muddy, ſoft Conſiſtence, and as our folding Sheep frequently lie down in Dirt and Filth, it may occaſion the Breeding of theſe Vermin, or rather, by the Sheeps feeding on ſuch dirty Ground, and in their feeding, taking into their Bodies much of the Scum and Filth of the Surface Earth, which, he thinks, very probably, may corrupt the Blood of the Sheep, and breed theſe Reptiles, that may affect to lodge and increaſe their Breed in the Head of the Sheep, and from whence, in Time, they'll eat their Way downwards, and come out of the Sheep's Noſtrils; for he has known Sheep diſcharge them in Snot, by ſneezing, or by ſhaking its Head; at other Times, he ſays, he has known them eat through the bottom Part of a Sheep's

Horn,

Horn, and come out there. Some Shepherds, he ſays, when they perceive a Sheep void theſe Bugs, or Maggots, will with a Penknife cut a little Hole open at the Bottom of one Horn, and, as he has done, pour in hot Tar, or, inſtead of this, Train Oil, and it kills them, and heals the Part; he ſays, that theſe Bugs, or Grubs, have Legs or Feet. Hence may, alſo, appear, the Excellency of my Liquor, that prevents the Breed of the White, or Red-Water, or Rot, in Sheep; for if this cheap Liquor is given to a Sheep, as I ſhall direct in my third and laſt Book, no Corruption, whatſoever, can breed and lodge in the Blood of it, conſequently, no Grub, nor Worm, nor any other Vermin, can breed and increaſe in the Body of this Animal, although it feeds on the worſt of Ground, and on the coarſeſt Food.

How to cure a Ewe's Udder that is broke.—By a Ewe's long ſuckling her own, and alien Houſe-Lambs, her Bag ſometimes becomes bruiſed and inflamed, by the older and ſtronger Sort of Lambs hunching and butting her Bag, with their Heads, to make Milk come down the freer; and by repeating ſuch their Buttings at ſuckling Time, the Ewe's Bag becomes knotted, and ſometimes breaks. In this Caſe, boil Soap, Salt and Piſs together, and apply it ſeveral Times, very hot, and it will heal and cure it.

The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN's, *the* PLOW-FARMER's, *the* GRASIER's, *and the* SHEPHERD's *Sure Guide*, &c.

BOOK III.

CHAP. I.

Of broken and diſlocated Bones in SHEEP.

How liable Sheep are to the Accidents of diſlocated Joints and broken Bones.

EXPERIENCE proves this to be Fact in all Countries more or leſs, but moſt of all in incloſed Countries, where Woods and Hedges grow thick, and Roads and Lanes are narrow: In both, Sheep may, by Accident, break their Necks, their Backs, their Thighs, and their Legs, or diſlocate their Joints. Therefore (that a Sheep may not, according to the Proverb, be loſt for Want of a Halfpennyworth of Tar) Gentlemen, Farmers, Shepherds, and others, ſhould be well apprized how to ſave a Sheep's Life, by the timely Application of a proper Remedy; which, that they may be the more fully inform'd of, I ſhall here lay before them the Receipts of ſeveral ancient Authors, as well as my own, that they may have the greater Choice for pleaſing themſelves.

The Receipt of Adam Speed, *an ancient Author, for broken Bones, or the bruiſed Joints of Sheep.*---TAKE (ſays he) Camomile, Marſhmallows, Betony, Bugloſs, and Honeyſuckle Leaves, of each half a Handful, ſtamp them with Hog's Lard, and fry them in a Frying-Pan, ſpread them upon Leather as a Poultice, and bind up the afflicted Part with them very warm.

A ſecond Receipt for fractured Bones, Sprains, and Wrenches of Sheep.---THIS is by a nameleſs Author, who ſays, that after the Bone or Joint is ſet, apply an Ointment made with Bees-Wax, Turpentine, Suet, the Juice of Mugwort, Stone-Pitch, and Melilot; ſupplying the Place grieved alſo with Oil of Earthworms, as hot as may be endured; tie it up with a ſoft Liſt, very ſtrait, and by renewing the Unguent every other Day, the Strength will be reſtored as at firſt.

A third Receipt for Bruiſes, Fractures, or broken Bones of Sheep; by James Lambert.---TAKE (ſays he) Turpentine, Sheeps Suet, and Bees-Wax, each an Ounce, make a Salve; bathe firſt, with Oil of Camomile, then lay on the Plaiſter, and bind up the Fracture or Diſlocation, that by this Means may be healed, and become right again.

A fourth Receipt for broken Bones in Sheep, or Bones out of Joint; by Gervaiſe Markham.---IF your Sheep (ſays he) chance to break a Leg, or have any other Bone miſplaced, you ſhall, after you have ſet it ſtrait and right again, firſt bathe it with Oil and Wine, and then dipping a Cloth in molten Patchgreaſe, rowl it about, and ſplint it as Occaſion ſhall ſerve, and ſo let it remain nine Days, and dreſs again; and at the End of the next nine Days, the Sheep will be able to go.

A fifth Receipt, from a nameleſs Author.---HE ſays, that after the Bone is ſet, you ſhould mix Linſeed-Oil, Tallow, and *Burgundy*-Pitch, in equal Quantities together, with which make a Plaiſter and lay it on; then ſplinter it, and bind with Liſt, that muſt be kept on near three Weeks.

This Author's Account how a Sheep broke its Leg, with its Cure, at Aſkot *in* Buckinghamſhire.---THIS Place is in *Wing* Pariſh in *Bucks*, where a Shepherd look'd after a large Flock of Sheep, one of which happening to tranſgreſs, he courſed it with his Dog, and ſo frightened it, as to force it into a Hedge; but not being able to get through it, in ſtriving, one of its Legs ſtuck between a Plaiſh and broke: The Shepherd, who was no Stranger to theſe Sort of Acci-

dents, directly went and procured a tarred linen Rag, which he bound about the Fracture after it was ſet, and upon that he bound a linen Rag without Tar; next he clap'd on four broad Splinters, and tied them faſt with broad Tape, and let the Sheep go about grazing as uſual: But as the Part ſwell'd, he, in a few Days, was forced to take away the Splinters, and leave the Leg bound with only the Tar and the other Rag, and the Sheep did well.---Now I ſhall make it appear, by the following Facts, that there was no Occaſion for uſing wooden Splinters in the curing of this Sheep's broken Leg, becauſe ſuch a Fracture is eaſier and better cured without them.

A Sheep's Leg broke at Gaddeſden, *by the Throwing of a Stone, and how cured, after a new Method.*----THIS Sheep being, among others, in a Flock on *Gaddeſden-Green*, a Boy, to part it from another Flock, threw a Stone ſo hard at it, that it broke its Leg, which when the Farmer, my next Neighbour, came to underſtand, he immediately clip'd away the Wool about the Fracture, and only pulled the Leg ſtrait to ſet it, without being over curious to fix the Bones exactly one to the other, for he truſted more to his Plaiſter than his Skill in ſetting a broken Bone; he therefore got a Piece of Sheep's-ſkin Leather, and when he had almoſt boiled ſome Stone Pitch, he ſpread it with the ſame, and applied it as hot as he could about the fractured Part. This done, he did no more than bind a Woollen Garter over all the Pitch Plaiſter, and let the Sheep take its Chance in walking about to get its Living by grazing on *Gaddeſden* Common, as uſual, and it grew better and better, till it broke its Leg a ſecond Time, where it was broke firſt, by endeavouring to get through a Gap in a Hedge; however, this did not cauſe the Farmer to do any more to the Sheep's Leg, for he let it go as it was, with the ſame pitch'd Plaiſter he at firſt bound about it, not too looſe nor too tight; and the Sheep did well, except that it went always a little bending with that Leg.----Now this is what I practiſe, and never found it miſcarry. I had one of my Store Sheep broke its Leg in a Hedge, and cured by the Pitch Plaiſter; and I recommend it for a better Way than to uſe Splinters, becauſe Splinters are very apt to ſwell the Part, and endanger the Leg and Life of the Creature, as I intend to ſhew in ſome of my Works, to be intituled---*Inſtrumental Huſbandry: Or, new Diſcoveries of Improvements in the Art of Agriculture.*----Where I ſhall give my Readers the Caſe of a

Gentleman's Dog that had its Leg broke, and being bound about hard with Splinters, it ſwell'd, and rotted, and kill'd the Dog; and alſo the Caſe of a Farmer, who had a Hog that broke its Thigh, and cured with only a Pitch-leather'd Plaiſter without Splinters; for ſuch a Plaiſter draws away the Anguiſh, at the ſame Time it ſtrengthens the Part.

A Sheep broke its Neck, and what was done with its Carcaſs.---My Workman, in the laſt Place he lived at before he was married, was Shepherd to a great Farmer ſeveral Years, and in the large Flock he looked after, there happened to be one particular Sheep, that every Night would leap over one of the Hurdles, that compoſed the Fold or Pen; and was ſo ſubtil, that, as ſoon as the Shepherd appeared in the Morning to let the Sheep out, this Straggler would immediately run towards the Fold, and leap into it, which ſo provoked our Shepherd, that one Morning, inſtead of coming into the Field by the Gate, he went through a Hedge with his Dog, near where this Sheep was feeding, and ſuddenly ſurpized it, by ſetting the Dog after it; who followed it ſo cloſe, that, in haſte to get into the Fold, it leap'd ſhort, and hit its Head ſo violently hard againſt the upper Sloat of the Hurdle, that it diſlocated its Neck, and died in a Moment; for a Sheep thus ſerved, dies ſooner than if it was ſtuck with a Knife; for which Reaſon, Butchers, as ſoon as they have ſtuck a Sheep in the Neck, bend and disjoint at once. Now the Loſs of this Sheep was not much; for when it was dead, the Shepherd carried it home, ſkinn'd and dreſs'd it ready for the Family's Uſe. Therefore the Farmer had no Reaſon to be angry with the Shepherd, for what he did was intended for the beſt; that is to ſay, to break this Sheep from breaking out of the Fold; for ſuch a Sheep might, in Time, learn others to do the like, and thereby expoſe the Farmer's green Grain, in ſome adjoining Field, to be ſpoiled by them.

A Sheep's Thigh broke, and did well of itſelf, without any Application.---A VERY poor Sheep, of my Neighbour's, was put into a Clover Field with Horſes, and had its Thigh broke ſo high, that there was no ſetting it; however, it was continued in the Clover till it got very fat, ſo that when killed, the Flair of it weighed ten Pounds; and the Thigh knit, and did ſo well of itſelf, that the Sheep went perfectly well on it; only that Quarter, on the Side of the Fracture, was leſs than the reſt.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Of the Foot-Rot in SHEEP.

An Introduction, for the better explaining the true Cauſe of the common prejudicial Foot-Rot Malady, among Suckling Ewes.

THE Art of Suckling Houſe-Lambs has certainly tended very much to the Profit of many Farmers, by enabling thoſe to pay their Rents and live comfortably, which they could not have done, had it not been for their carrying on this Sort of Buſineſs; witneſs the many gravelly incloſed Fields lying in *Sarrat*, *Rickmanſworth*, and ſome other Pariſhes in *Hertfordſhire*, within twenty-five Miles of *London*, that are ſo poor and raſhy hungry in their Natures, that in ſome Years, a Man may ride many Miles in a Day, and not ſee a Field with a large full Crop of Wheat, or other Grain growing on it: But by ſowing many Acres of theſe poor Soils with Rye, Trefoil, Reygraſs, Clover, and Turnip-Seeds, the Farmer generally gets ſufficient Crops of them to carry on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs; which, if managed right, may prove, perhaps, the beſt Article of all others, in his Undertakings. I knew one of theſe Suckling Farmers, who, notwithſtanding he ſow'd about fifty Acres with Wheat, and many more with Barley, Oats, *&c.* yet, had it not been for his keeping about one hundred and forty Suckling Ewes for fatting Houſe-Lambs, he muſt have been broke; for, as it was, at *Michaelmas*, 1747, it is ſaid, he owed his Landlord three Years and a Half's Rent, at an Hundred a Year. Now it happened very fortunate for this Tenant to have a Landlord of a Thouſand, for he was ſo good-natured, as to forbear ſeizing for his Rent all this while, as he ſaw the Man was diligent and kept up his Stock, which gave him a ſucceſsful Opportunity; for the Summer, 1747, being a wettiſh one, this Weather agreed ſo well with his dry, poor gravelly Ground, that it return'd him tolerable Crops of Grain; and as Wheat ſold at *Michaelmas* Time for rather above three Shillings a Buſhel, Barley fourteen Shillings a Quarter, Peaſe two Shillings a Buſhel, and Oats Eighteenpence, the Landlord and Tenant amicably agreed

to

to part while they were both ſafe; accordingly, all the Stock was appraiſed by indifferent Men, but this Appraiſement not being approved of by them, they ſettled the whole Affair between themſelves; and the Tenant is ſaid to go off with two or three hundred Pounds in his Pocket, after renting this Farm --- Years; which now the Landlord keeps in his own Hands by Choice. But what I would here chiefly remark is, that this Farmer, as well as moſt, or all others of the Suckling Sort, ſuffer'd much Loſs by the Foot-Rot Malady: It's true, that by driving the Ewes, twice a Day, from the Field to the Houſe, for ſuckling Houſe-Lambs in Winter-time eſpecially, their Feet become ſore, and if neglected curing in Time, they'll rot off, create them much Pain, leſſen their Appetite, Milk, and Fleſh, and infect both their Lambs and other Sheep, to the Farmer's great Loſs. But then, this is not the ſole Cauſe of this Damage, therefore I am here led to obſerve, that, as thoſe Suckling Farmers, buy all, or moſt of their Ewes out of the Weſt, they ſhould conſider, that moſt of this Country lies in Downs, where their Sheep feed on fine, dry, grazing Grounds, free of Drift, to hurt their Feet; and that, as their Ewes are drove up in Flocks, to be ſold in *Middleſex* and *Hertfordſhire*, ſome with Lambs by their Side, and others in Lamb, their tender Feet muſt ſuffer a Soreneſs, in ſome Degree, by ſuch their travelling; and although ſuch Soreneſs may not as yet be called a Foot-Rot, yet an imprudent Suckling Farmer, not regarding this, he drives them, in a little Time after Lambing, too and from the Fold; and as the Dams, or own Mothers, lie all Night with their Lambs confin'd in a Houſe, it is a Rarity to find one of theſe Farmers, but what will let the Dung, made by theſe Ewes and Lambs, remain in the Place a Quarter of a Year together, contenting themſelves with only covering the ſame with freſh Straw every Day; ſo that here is almoſt a conſtant hot Dunghil for the Sheep to tread and lie on, which muſt certainly heat their Feet, make them tender, and expeditiouſly breed and increaſe the Foot-Rot Malady.---- Whereas, if the Sheep-Room and Lamb-Pens, were cleaned out once every Week, and duly litter'd with Wheat-Straw, Morning and Evening, the Sheep and Lambs would not be ſo ſubject to take the Foot-Rot as moſt of them now are; but if they ſhould have it, the Malady, by this Means, would be much eaſier and ſooner cured; for, it is for Want of this Cleanlineſs, and cool lying withal, that their Lambs

loſe

loſe their Appetite, ſcour, and, inſtead of fatting, fall away: Then the Farmer muſt eat it himſelf, or ſell it to his Neighbours, which is next to giving it away, as has been the Caſe with many of the negligent Sort; and no Wonder it is ſo, as a Lamb has four hot Bellyfuls of Milk every Day, and lies penn'd in a cloſe Place on hot Dung, perhaps near Knee-deep, ſeven or eight Weeks together. But ſome will ſay, if Dung and Litter is not deep, the Lamb will lick the Poſts and Brick-Work, and ſuffer this Way; it's true they will, but a right Lamb-Pen ſhould be all boarded on every Side to prevent it; others object and ſay, without a deep Pen Dunghil, they muſt uſe much Straw, and not make a valuable Dung; but this is ſo frivolous, as needs no Anſwer. However, I ſhall continue this Subject as follows.

Of the Hertfordſhire *and* Middleſex *Foot-Rot Diſtemper, attending* Ewes *that ſuckle* House-Lambs *in theſe Counties.*

AS in *Hertfordſhire* and *Middleſex*, the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs is carried on more (I verily believe) than in all *England* beſides, for furniſhing the City of *London* with the greateſt Plenty of Houſe-Lambs Fleſh, as a moſt delicious, wholeſome Meat, I think I cannot make my Remarks on this deſtructive Malady better, than writing on its Effects, as they bring theſe Suckling Farmers under very great Loſſes; firſt, therefore, I ſhall endeavour to give an Account of the Cauſes of it, and next ſhew its Cure.

The Cauſes of the Foot-Rot Malady in Suckling Ewes.---- It is well known, that the Roads of theſe two Counties are frequently mended with Gravel and ſmall Stones; both which are made uſe of in very large Quantities, becauſe the heavieſt Land-Carriages are conſtantly drawn through them laden with Wheat-Meal, Wood, Hay, *&c.* to *London*, and in bringing back Coals, Aſhes, Soot, Rags, Dung, and other Luggage, which render theſe Roads in wet Weather very gravelly and ſloppy. Now there are many Suckling Farmers that live on, or near the Edge of theſe Roads, that are obliged to drive their Suckling Ewes twice a Day,

to

to and from their Fields for ſuckling their Houſe-Lambs; and this for a Quarter, or Half a Mile together, each Time; which, in Winter-time eſpecially, ſo cuts the Hoofs of theſe travelling Ewes, that I know a Plow-Farmer, who rents an hundred a Year, and keeps about ſeven-ſcore Suckling Ewes, has commonly five, ſix, or eight of them to dreſs every ſecond Night, for curing their ſore Feet throughout the cold wet Seaſon; and this is the more increaſed, as the Soil of his incloſed, Arable Fields are of the gravelly Sort, ſown with Clover and Trefoil Graſs, or with Turnips,—which more or leſs ſubject theſe Suckling Ewes to ſuffer by the Foot-Rot. Yet this is not altogether the Caſe of every Suckling Farmer, for there are many others that rent only Meadow or Paſture Grounds in *Middleſex*, and carry on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs but Part of the Year; here their Suckling Ewes do not entirely acquire the Foot-Rot by travelling through Roads or Lanes, but partly by their flaſhy, wet Graſs, and Ground, in Winter, and, at other Times, by the great Heat, and Dryneſs of the Land; for, in *Middleſex*, they dreſs it with ſo much *London* Dung and Aſhes, that the Heat of it contributes very much towards the breeding and continuing of this Hurt; inſomuch that theſe Suckling Meadow-Farmers, are rather more liable to ſuffer by the Foot-Rot, than the Suckling Plow-Farmer, becauſe when once their Ewes have taken the Foot-Rot in a great Degree, the Pus or Matter iſſuing from their wounded Feet, falling on their Graſs Ground that is never plow'd, it remains, and ſo taints it, that it becomes infected; and the Infection increaſes, as the greater Number of Ewes come under it; whereas ſuch infected Ground does not ſo ſoon fall to the Plow-Farmers Share, becauſe their Land is frequently turn'd up by the Plow. Nor does the Foot-Rot Malady affect the Plow-Farmers ſuckling Ewes in Summer as it does in Winter; for in Summer they are ſeldom troubled with it, becauſe the Gravels, in dry Weather, are not near ſo cutting as in wet.

How the Meadow-Suckling Farmer may prevent, in a great Degree, the Damage of the Foot-Rot Malady.---As the rank Flaſhineſs of their high, wet, Meadow-Graſs, is one Means of breeding the Foot-Rot, by keeping the Hoofs of the Ewes ſo ſoft and tender, as expoſes them to be the ſooner gravelled and hurt in driving them to and fro, between the Field and the Houſe, their Graſs Ground ought to be dreſs'd leſs with Dung than their preſent Practice is; for it's well

well known that the Meadow Fields, of *Middleſex* eſpecially, are dreſs'd with nothing elſe but Cart Dung, and this almoſt every Year---Inſomuch that in hot, wet Summers, their Graſs is commonly rotten at Bottom, before they mow it for Hay, which brings it under ſuch a Heat before and afterwards, that in dry, hot Seaſons, it is ready to burn the Feet of the Ewes, and breed and keep them under the painful Foot-Rot. Now if ſuch Meadow-Suckling Farmers would, inſtead of conſtantly dreſſing their Graſs Land with rank, hot Dung, dreſs it with Mr. *Livings's* Manure now and then, as an alternate Dreſſing, it would not only help to cure the Ground that is already infected by the diſtemper'd Feet of Foot-rotted Ewes, but alſo, in a great Degree, prevent it for the Time to come, and kill or keep down Grubs and Worms from hurting their Graſs, which their Dung breeds and nouriſhes much; and that they may come by the Knowledge of this excellent Compoſt or Manure, I have to inform them, that I am Maſter of this great Secret, and can communicate it to whom I pleaſe. I alſo aſſure them that it is in the Power of a *Middleſex* Farmer to have it at a much cheaper Rate than we who live further in *Hertfordſhire* from the Metropolis; and by having it, if rightly applied, it will produce a moſt ſweet, thick-grown, fattening Graſs, that will breed abundance of Milk in Ewes, of the moſt nouriſhing Sort, keep them in good Heart, and cauſe the Houſe-ſuckled Lambs to be furniſhed with the ſweeteſt, and fatteſt, and whiteſt Fleſh.

The Damage that the Foot-Rot Malady brings the Suckling Farmer under.----WHAT Conſequence it is of for all Suckling Farmers to endeavour the Prevention of this pernicious, contagious Diſtemper, the Foot-Rot, may appear from the great Loſſes that ariſe from it; for they well know, (the *Middleſex* Farmer eſpecially) that moſt of their Meadows are ſo much infected by this Sheep-Malady, that they are ſeldom or never free from the Taint of it; and that it is for this Reaſon, that few of their Suckling Ewes are ever clear of it, in a leſs or greater Degree; the Pain and Anguiſh whereof takes them much off their Appetite, leſſens their Milk, and keeps them poor in Fleſh; ſo that two or three Ewes, thus afflicted, gives no more Milk, than one full-milch'd Ewe that is in perfect Health; which muſt be a conſiderable Loſs to a Suckling Farmer, who has all, or moſt of his Rent to make by ſuckling Houſe-Lambs: Yet the Loſs does not end here, for when Suckling Ewes are

much troubled with the Foot-Rot, the Pain and Anguiſh of it prevents their taking Ram in due Time, wears them out ſooner than ordinary, and ſometimes renders them unfit for the Suckling Service; and if the Malady gets the better of the Remedy, the Foot rots off; or if it does not, the Ewes, perhaps, muſt be either fatted at home, or ſold for the ſame Purpoſe. Again, what is alſo of a very pernicious Conſequence to Suckling Farmers, is, when ſome of their Suckling Ewes are ſeized with the Foot-Rot, to ſuch a great Degree, that the Malady breaks out above their Hoofs, the Pus, or Matter, is oftentimes communicated, not only to other ſound Ewes, but to the Houſe-Lambs that ſuck on them, which brings them likewiſe under the ſame Foot-Rot, gives them much Pain, and greatly hinders their fattening; beſides which, the Charge of Ingredients to dreſs their corrupted Feet, and the Time and Labour employed in doing it, does not a little increaſe the Damage; wherefore it highly concerns all Suckling Farmers, to take not only the beſt Methods of preventing this Malady, but likewiſe, when their Ewes have taken it, to get them cured in the ſooneſt and ſafeſt Manner.

What ancient and modern Authors ſay of the Foot-Rot.---In all the Books that I ever read, relating to Sheep and Lambs, I cannot find one of their Authors giving any tolerable Account of the Foot-Rot Malady; the Omiſſion of which, at firſt, ſeemed to cauſe my Wonder, but on ſecond Thoughts, it was leſſen'd, when I conſider'd that the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs in general, began to be carried on firſt, in *Middleſex*, about fifty ---- Years ago; and if their Authors did not live in theſe Parts, or wrote their Books in a *London* Chamber, it is no Wonder they were Strangers to the Foot-Rot Diſtemper. I know of none that wrote on ſuckling Houſe-Lambs but Mr. *Bradley*, and he has not ſo much as touch'd on the Foot-Rot, nor any other Diſtemper incident to Sheep and Lambs. The firſt Authors that mention any Thing of it, are two *French* Phyſicians, who wrote a Book on Huſbandry, I ſuppoſe, near two hundred Years ago, intituled,----*La Maiſon Ruſtique.*----And though they had no Notion of ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, nor the Cauſe of the Foot-Rot by the Ewes daily travelling, yet they were ſenſible that Sheep, by only ſtanding too long in their Dung, were ſubject to ſuffer in their Feet by it, and therefore writ thus on it.----If a Sheep (ſay they) become lame through Tenderneſs of his Claws, too much ſoftened,

ſoftened, by having ſtood over-long upon his own Dung, and that in ſuch Sort, as that he cannot go, you muſt cut off the Tip of his ſo decayed Claw, and put thereupon quick Lime, tying it on with ſome Linen Cloth, and this to be continued only for the Space of a Day; and then upon the Day following, to apply unto it ſome Verdigreaſe; and thus to uſe theſe two Things in the like Courſes, ſo long as until the Hoof be whole and ſound.

The Cure of the Foot-Rot, by Adam Speed.---THIS Gentleman wrote one or more Books on Huſbandry, about the Year 1628; in one of them he gives a Receipt to cure lame and hurt Claws, thus--He ſays, for Claws that are lame, bruiſed, over-grown, or broken, pare them as much as is convenient; then make a Plaiſter of Bees-Wax, Roſin, Turpentine, unſlack'd Lime, and Hog's Greaſe; anoint the Claw with Oil of Camomile, and lay the Plaiſter on it, binding it up hard, and ſuffer him not to go into wet Places till he is well.

The Cure of a Foot-Rot, by James Lambert.---THIS Author has taken his Receipt from the laſt Authors, and ſays, in his Book, printed in 1703---For a lame or hurt Claw of a Sheep, make a Plaiſter of Bees-Wax, Roſin, ſlack'd Lime, Turpentine, and Hog's-Lard; bathe firſt with Oil of Camomile; then lay on the Plaiſter and bind it up, and ſuffer the Sheep not to come in ſtony, wet, or dirty Places.

The Cure of the Foot-Rot, by this Author, according to the Acton *Receipt.*---AT Page 125, in my monthly Book for *June*, intituled, *The Modern Huſbandman*, ſold by *Thomas Oſborne* in *Gray's-Inn*, *London*, I have publiſhed ſeveral excellent Receipts for the Cure of the Foot-Rot Malady, which were never wrote of by any Author whatſoever; and likewiſe at Page 73, for the Month of *July*, I have added two more, therefore have the leſs to write here.---About *Acton* in *Middleſex*, ſome of their Farmers that carry on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs, buy one Ounce of white ſublimate Mercury, at the Chymiſts or Apothecaries, that will coſt about Sixpence.

The Lay-Hill *Receipt for the Cure of the Foot-Rot in Sheep and Lambs.*---THIS *Lay-Hill* lies near *Bovington* in *Hertfordſhire*, where a Suckling Farmer of Houſe-Lambs practiſes this Receipt in Preference to all others he knew of, as finding it never failed him; and it highly concerns him to make uſe of one of the effectual Sort, ſince, as he ſays, the Foot-Rot Malady is of ſuch a contagious Nature, that it

runs through ſome whole Flocks of Ewes, Wether Sheep, and Lambs; and that ſome Suckling Flocks in particular, more or leſs, are never free from it. He therefore puts a Piece of blue Vitriol Stone about the Bigneſs of a Nutmeg, in an Ounce and Half, or two Ounces of Aqua Fortis, which, when diſſolved, muſt be kept in a Bottle, well cork'd, or beſt with a Glaſs Stopple; and when it is to be uſed, a ſmall Stick, like a Scure, flattened a little at one End, muſt be dipt into it; and after the Hoof is pared (if Occaſion be) beſmear the grieved Part with the Aqua Fortis: This done, let the Sheep be kept a while in the Houſe, with a Rag tied about its Foot.

The famous Kitt Brown's *Account of, and Cure of the Foot-Rot.*---THIS long experienced, great Dealer in Sheep, is juſtly of Opinion, that nothing exceeds this laſt Receipt, for its cheap, eaſy, and ready Preparation, and Uſe, in curing the Foot-Rot; for it's only beating the common blue, or green Vitriol Stone to Powder, and infuſing it in a little Bottle of Aqua Fortis. The Mixture being thus prepared, he takes Care the Sheep or Lamb's Foot be wiped, till it is perfectly clean and dry; and unleſs the Hoof is much gravelled or rotted, he does not pare it, but with the flat End of a Scure, or ſmall Stick, (for it will burn a Feather) apply a little of this burning Liquid to the Part; for as it is a violent Cauſtick, it immediately penetrates, and burns away the Fungus, or rotten Fleſh, or Hoof, and while it is ſo doing, it brings the Beaſt under exquiſite Pain for a little Time; but when it is over, the Wound heals with great Expedition; becauſe as the Vitriol and Aqua Fortis are both of them of a dry, hot, aſtringent, cleanſing, healing Nature, this Mixture, potently reſiſts all Putrefaction, heals preſently, and, as it were, ſo ſears and incruſts the Part, almoſt at once, that ſome do nothing more to it then letting the Sheep or Lamb ſtand dry for an Hour or two after it is thus dreſſed; thus, by only one ſuch Application of this excellent Remedy, many Sheep and Lambs have been cured of the Foot-Rot; nor is any Thing more requiſite to be done to it, unleſs the Foot is very bad, then indeed, it muſt be dreſſed again, and a Rag, or a Piece of Sheep's oily Leather, ſhould be applied and bound about the Place, as a Defence againſt the Danger of Dirt, Gravel, and Water, or to be applied in the Nature of a healing Plaiſter, prepared after the following Method.

How

How to make a Salve to be applied Plaiſterwiſe to a Sheep's Feet that are much damaged by the Foot-Rot, and afterwards to harden them.---THERE are many Sheeps Feet ſo gravelled, or rotten, that they break out above, as well as under the Hoof, and diſcharge a Matter; when theſe Sort are to be cured, ſome Farmers ſeparate the Sound from the Unſound, the better to prevent further Infection; and if the Foot is very bad, are obliged to pare the Hoof with a Penknife to the Quick, even till it bleeds, the better to clear it of all Fungus, or proud, or rotten Fleſh, or ſo much of it as is damaged by Gravel, *&c.* For not only Sheep (Suckling Ewes eſpecially) that travel much, as I ſaid, are liable to this Foot-Rot Malady, but even Sheep that do not travel, as many of thoſe Graziers experience, who live in the Iſle of *Ely*, *Lincolnſhire*, and in many other Parts, where they rent Marſh Grounds; for here their large Sheep frequently acquire the Foot-Rot, by feeding conſtantly among their high Graſs, on their low, wet Land.—Juſt boil ſome Hog's-Lard, ſoft Soap, and Horſe-Turpentine together; moſt Lard, leſs Soap, and leaſt Turpentine, and ſpread it thin on a Piece of oiled Sheep's Leather, which bind about the Sheep's Foot, and keep it as near the Houſe as you can: It will quickly draw and heal the Part, if applied hot to the Wound: Let the Plaiſter remain on a Week, then waſh the Foot with ſtale Urine, every Day, till well, keeping the Leather about it till it is perfectly ſound.---Or you may diſſolve a Bit of Allum, and white Vitriol, in hot Water, and with a Feather beſmear the Foot as ſoon as it is healed by the Plaiſter, and it will ſoon dry and harden it.

Why Ewes Feet ought to be hardened before they are drove out of the Weſt Country, to be ſold in Middleſex *and* Hertfordſhire, *&c. and how to do it.*---As moſt of the Suckling Farmers of *Middleſex* and *Hertfordſhire*, &c. (as I have before obſerved) buy Weſtern Ewes, as the very beſt Sort of all others, for ſuckling Houſe-Lambs, their Feet ought to be hardened before they begin travelling; and the rather, becauſe theſe, for the moſt Part, are brought up about *Michaelmas* Time, when the Roads are dirty, and then the Gravels cut the Ewes Feet, which is commonly the primary Cauſe and Beginning of the Foot-Rot Malady: Now, ſuch Ewes Feet would be much ſecured againſt this Evil, if they would, a little before their ſetting out from the Weſt Country, wipe their Ewes Feet dry and clean, and apply by a Feather, two or three Times, the aforementioned

tioned Vitriol, and Allum-Liquor to them; for Sheep, as well as Oxen, by travelling the Roads to diſtant Parts, are much expoſed to ſuffer by gravelled, gauled, ſore Feet; therefore it is, that the many large Droves of Oxen, which are brought up every Week from the North, when they are come out of the ſofter Roads into harder ones, about *Woburn* in *Bedfordſhire*, they commonly get ſhod by the Smith, elſe they would be ſo lame, as not to be able to hold out their travelling to *London*: But the poor Ewes muſt travel out of *Dorſet* and *Wiltſhire* without any ſuch Iron Security, for which Reaſon, they ſtand in the more Need of having their Hoofs hardened by the aforeſaid Liquor, or by ſome other Means. On this Account the Northern Drovers of Sheep take a right Method to ſecure the Feet of their travelling Flocks to *London*; for if they did not uſe ſome Means to harden their Feet, they could not travel ſo many Scores of Miles, as their great *Lincolnſhire* and *Leiceſterſhire* Sheep do: Therefore they are ſeldom without their Vial of Aqua Fortis, or ſome other Cauſtick Liquor, with which, when they find a Sheep's Foot ſore, after it is clean'd, they beſmear a little over it, and it preſently burns and hardens it ſo, as to cauſe the Creature to travel well again.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who having many of his Suckling Ewes Foot-rotted, fraudulently obtained their grazing on a diſtant Common he had no Right to, for recovering their Feet, and preventing their infecting his other ſound Ewes.---THIS Perſon I am here writing of, is a very great Farmer in *Hertfordſhire*, who occupying much plowed Land, keeps a great Number of Suckling Ewes for fatting Houſe-Lambs all the Year; but as his Soil is all a gravelly Sort, by the daily Drift of his Ewes to and from his Houſe, many of them were overtaken with the Foot-Rot. Now this great Farmer having none but incloſed Fields to keep his Ewes in, he had not the Opportunity of a Common to ſeparate ſome of his infected Ewes from his ſound ones, and for giving them Reſt, in order to recover them of the Foot-Rot. But to ſupply this Want, he fees a Perſon who had a Right to graze Cattle on an unlimited Common, lying about three Miles from him, and twenty from *London*, to take ſeventy of his damaged Ewes and graze them as his own; accordingly they were put on it, but the neighbouring Farmers being alarm'd by an Apprehenſion, that theſe Foot-rot Ewes would infect their ſound Sheep, although they could not prove the Impoſition then, yet they took private Opportu-

nities to hunt and fright them off the Common, ſo that moſt of them ſtray'd into adjacent Grounds, where the Owners of them hunted and pounded them to that Degree, that after ſeveral died, the reſt were taken away by their proper Owner, and ſo the Fraud was diſcover'd, and he forced to deſiſt buying (as I am informed) any more Ewes in from the Weſt Country, this Year, 1747, leſt freſh ones became infected by his old ones; for it is the Opinion of ſome, that when the Foot is ſo much rotted, as to ouze out a Pus, or Matter above, or under the Hoof, it is near as infectious as the Small-Pox is to human Bodies.

The Practice of a Buckinghamſhire *Farmer to cure his Sheep of the Foot-Rot.*---He ſays, he pares between the Hoof with a Penknife to the Quick but once, or if it is broke out above the Hoof, as ſometimes it does, he pares likewiſe to the Quick, then puts on the Wound ſome Powder of blue Vitriol, and a Rag over it; when done, he lets the Sheep ſtand one Hour in the Fold, or in a Houſe, before he turns it out to graze: This he does in an Afternoon, becauſe the Night Dews are good to keep the Dreſſing moiſt for the better bringing on the Cure, and renews the Application till the Foot is well.

The Hendon *Way of curing the Foot-Rot.*---Here ſome of their Farmers carry on the Suckling of Houſe-Lambs, and thereby are forced to drive their Ewes over much Ground, in ſome Places, in a Day, which expoſes them to breeding the Foot-Rot.---For this they mix Verdigreaſe, with Powder of Vitriol and Vinegar, and ſometimes they add a little Aqua Fortis to it, but don't tie any Thing about the Foot: By this Care, the Sheep never is kill'd by the Foot-Rot; it only ſuffers ſome Pain.

Sheeps Feet ſecured againſt Soreneſs and Pain in travelling Turnpike-Roads.---I have been informed, that ſome great Sheep that travel many Miles to *London*, have had Leather put on each Claw and faſtened about the Foot of the Sheep to keep them from being ſore: That a Sheep has a tender hind Part of its Foot, as well as a hard, horny, forward Part; and therefore I ſhould think Aqua Fortis would be apt to burn the ſoft Part, if applied to harden it. It is thoſe Sheep that ſtand moſt in Need of ſuch a Leather Security that come off ſoft Grounds, as thoſe Paſtures are in *Leiceſterſhire*, and thoſe Marſhes and fenny Lands in *Lincoln* and *Cambridgeſhire*; for here their great heavy Sheeps Feet are ſoft and tender, and cannot well endure long Driving

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on Turnpike Roads, that are mended with Stones and Gravel.

An Example of a Foot-Rot Cure, performed on a Sheep at Gaddeſden.----A NEIGHBOURING Farmer having a good Quantity of Field Turnips, took in ſome Sheep to fat on them, amongſt which was one that had the Foot-Rot to that Degree, that half of one of its Fore Feet was near rotted off: Upon this, the Farmer mix'd ſome Salt, Greaſe, and Tar over the Fire, and, when ſcalding hot, he applied it to the Foot, and having an old Leather Pocket, he bound it about the Foot; and in three or four Days Time, the Foot was thoroughly cured by only this one Dreſſing.

The Lincolnſhire *Practice of curing the Foot-Rot, and ſecuring their Sheeps Feet from being ſore in travelling to a* London *Market.*---As this County breeds the largeſt Sheep in *England*, and as their Sheep feed for the moſt Part in Marſh Grounds, where their Graſs is of the rankeſt Sort, their Sheep are much ſubject to the Foot-Rot, which, to cure, they keep a certain Liquor by them in a Readineſs. Now this Liquor is made of theſe five Ingredients, *viz.* Aqua Fortis, blue Vitriol, Verdigreaſe, white Sublimate, and ſome of the beſt Vinegar; theſe being incorporated together, compoſe an excellent Medicine for curing the Foot-Rot. Firſt therefore, they pare away ſome of the Hoof, but ſeldom ſo much as to make it bleed; then, with a Feather dipt in this Liquor, they beſmear the Part, and it ſeldom fails of curing it at once or twice dreſſing.---This alſo is the ſame Liquor they uſe on the Road at a Night-time, or in the Morning, if the Sheep don't travel in the Day-time, when their travelling Sheeps Feet are ſore, and it recovers at once.

CHAP. III.

Of Gelding RAMS.

How Rams are improved by Gelding.

A TRUE bred Ram, with right Shapes, is by many much valued, becauſe on ſuch a one depends, in a great Degree, the good Breed of Sheep; and a Flock of a good Breed, is almoſt worth two of ſome bad ones. I have more

more than one good Ewe that will make her Lamb worth near two, from bad Ewes, in the ſame Time, and on the ſame Feed: A Property very much owing to a right Ram, and therefore I have known ſuch a one prized at a great Rate. But however valuable ſome Rams may be for their Make, Shape, and good Qualities, there are others of ſuch ill Qualities, as provoke their Owners to have them gelt, for which, there may be ſeveral Reaſons aſſigned: As, firſt, when a Ram-Lamb is thought to be improved by it, in order to make it fat the ſooner and better. Secondly, when a Ram is prone to ſtray too much from the Flock he belongs to. Thirdly, when he becomes miſchievouſly unlucky, by running his Horns againſt Perſons, and thus will not ſuffer himſelf to be forced by a Driver. Fourthly, when a Ram is arrived to ſuch an Age, as makes it neceſſary to have him gelt for his better fattening, for ſelling him at the greater Price, and for making Room for a younger one to ſucceed him in the Flock: Reaſons that cauſe many Rams to be gelt, in order to make the moſt of their Carcaſſes. For, it is well known, that a Ram will not fat to that Profit as a Wether will, becauſe he is a roaming Beaſt, and will be endeavouring to ſtray away after Ewes, and thereby much hinder his fattening. Beſides which, if he is fatted as a Ram, his Fleſh will be ſo red, and coarſely rank, as to oblige the Butcher to ſell him for the leſs Price.

Gelding Rams by Claſping-Irons, &c.---WHEN a Ram-Lamb is paſt the Age of ſix or eight Weeks, ſome Farmers think it too hazardous an Undertaking to geld him, by drawing his Stones out with a Man's Teeth, and therefore, though we Farmers perform this Operation our ſelves, yet we dare not venture to geld a Ram by the Help of Irons, but hire a common Gelder to do it; and for which he has Twopence for every Lamb, and Fourpence for a full-grown Ram. In the firſt Place, the Gelder ſets the Ram on his Arſe, with his Back againſt him, and when his Legs are held faſt by another Man, the Gelder makes uſe of his rivetted Claſping-Irons, with which he very tightly claſps the Skin, as cloſe as poſſible, juſt above the Cod; then, with a very blunt-edged hot Iron, he, by working it to and fro like a Saw, diſſevers the whole Cod from the Body of the Ram; as ſoon as this is done, he ſtrews over the Wound ſome Sort of Powder, and ſears it with a hot Iron, then applies more Powder, and ſears again and again if Occaſion be, with a greeniſh Ointment: Thus the Gelding is per-

form'd, and the Ram ſuffer'd to go about as uſual. Now ſome are of Opinion, that Gelding by Claſping, is the ſafeſt Way; others ſay the contrary, and think gelding Rams by Knitting them is ſurer. I know that my next Neighbour has loſt ſeveral Rams by the Claſping and Searing Way, for I have heard him ſay, he ſeldom had any gelt in this Manner, but that he loſt one or more Ram-Lambs by their Wounds gangering. For my own Part, I ſeldom have any Lambs gelt otherwiſe than by drawing out their Stones by my Plowman's Teeth; if I have, it is done by knitting them, or older Sheep, by the following Method.

The old and new Way of Gelding Rams by Knitting.---THIS Operation is done by Farmers, and not by common Gelders; and for performing it, we provide our ſelves, in the firſt Place, with a thick waxed End, that is to ſay, an End about double the Thickneſs of a common Shoemaker's End, and two Foot in Length; this we tie to the Middle of two Sticks, each near a Foot long, then we put the End juſt above the Cod, and about it Knot-wiſe, and in the ſame Poſture as a Shoemaker draws his End in ſewing a Shoe, we draw this about the Cod as tight as it lies in our Power, for if it is not drawn quite cloſe, it may kill the Ram; for you muſt know, that by this Operation, if it is done as it ſhould be, the Blood is ſtopt circulating to the Cod, and the Skin and Strings of the Stones, in the tying Place, are quite ſtupified, ſo that the Ram has no more Feeling in them; therefore they quickly turn black and mortify, and in about a Fortnight's Time, or leſs, if it does not drop off, it ſhould be cut off within an Inch or two of the tying Place; and it commonly does well without any Application to the wounded Part; but in caſe it ſhould be ſore and ganger, then make uſe of the following Remedy.

How to cure the wounded Part of a new gelt Ram.---TAKE Horſe-Turpentine, Yolks of Eggs, a little Hog's-Lard, and ſome Spirits of Wine; beat them well together in a Mortar: Dip Tow in this Ointment, and apply it by Tents, or otherwiſe, as Occaſion requires; and by repeating the Dreſſings, it will cauſe a Digeſtion, and heal the Part. It is an excellent Compoſition for this, and ſeveral other Purpoſes.

The Practice of a Vale Shepherd in Knitting of Rams.---THIS Shepherd always knits them between *Michaelmas* and *Allhollantide*, and never miſs'd ſucceeding. For, as he ſays, this Operation muſt not be performed in Ramming Time,

but after the Leaf is off, and before it comes on again. Then, in the firſt Place, he pulls the Wool clean off about the Part where the waxed End is to be tied, leſt it hinders the End being drawn quite cloſe to the Skin; then he faſtens the End about it juſt above the Cod, and draws it in the Manner of a Knot, with all his Might; and that this Work may be the ſecurer done, he twiſts the remaining Part of the End twice about the Place, to prevent its looſening, and lets the Sheep go where it will for a Week or two, before he cuts off the waxed String; and when he does it, he only anoints the Part with Hog's-Lard, and continues anointing the Wound once a Day, for a Week together, and the Sheep never fails of doing well. But I ſhould have told my Reader, that the old Way of Knitting or Gelding Rams this Way, was formerly done, as I have given an Account of; but the new Way is, that, as ſoon as the waxed String is faſtened about the Skin, juſt above the Cod, we then directly cut off a Piece of Skin at the Bottom of each Stone, and then they'll preſently extend themſelves through the Hole or Orifice, a little Way, and ſoon get lower and lower, for being the quicker ſeparated from the Body of the Ram.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who having his Ram gelt by Knitting, its Thigh ſwell'd to a great Degree, with an Account of its Cure.---THIS Farmer I am well acquainted with, who told me that the Ram, while it was knitting, ſpraggled, and ſtrained much, to get its Liberty, by which, one of its Thighs ſwelled to a very great Bigneſs, and gangering, the Swelling increaſed downwards; upon this, he was adviſed to run a red-hot Iron through the ſide Part of it, and he did it accordingly; but the Wound not mending ſo faſt as he expected, he run it through another Part of it, which brought on a plentiful Digeſtion, with the Help of a Mixture of Tar and freſh Greaſe, and cured the Sheep entirely, after two or three Applications of the Mixture.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who cutting off the Cod of his Ram too ſoon after Knitting, the wounded Part ſwell'd to that Degree, that the Sheep was given over for loſt, yet cured by the following Medicine----THIS was my next Neighbour's Caſe, although he was bred a Farmer from his Cradle, yet did what I never heard any one did before, and that was this: Having a Ram, that he was deſirous to have gelt for the better Improvement of his Carcaſs, he made no more to do than to knit him, which, as ſoon as done, he cut off

his Cod; but the wounded Part ſoon ſwell'd, and obliged the Farmer to cut the waxed String: This made him conſult Advice, and accordingly applied the Soap and Turpentine-Salve beforementioned, that ſoon drawed it into a Digeſtion, took down the Swelling, and after three or four Dreſſings, cured the Ram.

The Caſe of a Farmer, who having had the Stones of ſix young Rams drawn out by a Man's Teeth, four of them died by it.---THIS Farmer being a very ignorant one, very imprudently hired a Man to draw the Stones of ſix of his young Rams with his Teeth, that were about half a Year old, which not only put the poor Beaſts under exquiſite Torment, but alſo cauſed the wounded Part to ſwell and ganger; ſo that, notwithſtanding all the Remedies that were applied, four of them died by it, and two were cured: An Example, I hope, that will deter all Farmers and others that deal in Sheep, who may read it, from committing the like wrong Action; for it muſt be obvious to any, but ignorant, unthinking Perſons, that ſuch an Operation cannot be performed without great Hazard of the Creatures Lives, as the Strings of their Stones, at that Age, muſt be large and ſtrong, and the Fly, in Summer-time, very buſy when this fatal Gelding was put in Practice. For my own Part, I have had all the three Sorts of Gelding Lambs and Sheep performed by Drawing, Claſping, and Knitting; and as I have kept Flocks of Sheep near thirty Years on my Farm, I muſt be ſomewhat a Judge of the Conſequences of theſe ſeveral Operations, and therefore declare my Opinion to be this: That whether Rams are gelt by Drawing, by Claſping, or by Knitting, their Operations may be ſafely performed, if done by a right Workman, at a right Seaſon of the Year, and at a right Age of the Beaſt. Hence it is, that the Suckling Farmers of Houſe-Lambs, generally geld their Rams when they have ſix broad Teeth, and are four Years old; for in this Sort of Service, they wear out apace: And for making the moſt of their Carcaſs, they fat them preſently after; and the rather, becauſe it gives them an Opportunity to have young Rams in their Room.

A Ram-Lamb, by bad Gelding, like to have died, but was cured.---THIS was done by a Perſon of wrong Judgment, who gelt a Lamb ſo ill, that the Part ſwell'd and ganger'd, ſo that he was obliged to cut it off, and for curing it, he poured in hot Tar boiled up with freſh Greaſe, which brought

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on a Suppuration; and after two or three Applications of the ſame, it was cured.

Rams killed at three Years of Age, by a Man's drawing out their Stones with his Teeth.---THREE Rams being gelt by a Man's drawing out their Stones with his Teeth; one of them was three Years old, the others more or leſs; however the Part ganger'd, and killed the Sheep.---They ſhould have been gelt by Claſping-Irons.

CHAP. IV.

Of EWES *taking* RAM.

The common Times and Seaſons for Ewes to take Ram.

THE Times and Seaſons for Ewes to take Ram are various, and differ as the Land and their Feed are richer or poorer, and as they are more or leſs employed in Travelling, Folding, Suckling, *&c.* In our Parts of *Hertfordſhire*, where moſt of the Land is kept under the Plow, we are forced to dreſs the greateſt Part of it by the Fold, for obtaining the better Crops of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Peaſe, Thetches, Turnips, Clover, *&c.* and therefore we are obliged to fatigue our Ewes, as well as Wether Sheep, all the Summer, by folding them, which, with their ſhort Bite on Commons, and their Drifts to and from the Fold, proves a great Hindrance to their taking Ram; and when they do, their Ramming Seaſon is but once a Year, and that generally begins with us in *Auguſt*, and ends about *Michaelmas*, for then it is for the moſt Part over, except with ſome particular Ewes, that may ram between thoſe Times and *Allhollantide*: But it is otherwiſe with thoſe Ewes that are kept all the Year for ſuckling only Houſe-Lambs; if theſe, as I have obſerved, do not take Ram, and lamb twice a Year, it will not ſufficiently anſwer their Profit: For this Purpoſe therefore it is, that Suckling Farmers keep their Ewes and Rams, in the higheſt Degree of good Feeding on Graſſes, or on Turnips or Rapes, Rye, Thetches, *&c.* which capacitates their Ewes to bring Lambs about *Michaelmas* or *Allhollantide*, and about *April* or *May*. Yet as this natural Way is attended with much Uncertainty, if a

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ſure Way could be found out, it muſt be of great Service indeed.

The Advantages that may attend the forcing of Ewes to take Ram, at any Time of the Year.----THIS is of ſuch important Conſequence, that if a cheap and eaſy Method could be found out of doing it in Perfection, it would aſſuredly not only redound to the great Profit of many particular Perſons, but alſo to the infinite Advantage of the Nation in general: If ſo, what muſt that Author deſerve that firſt makes publick a Receipt, which, if duly put in Practice, will certainly effect this, which no one has, hitherto expoſed in Print? Now I am that Author that pretends to the doing of this ſerviceable Feat, and is a Feat that has been thoroughly experienced. What Advantage then muſt the imparting this great Secret be of to the Weſt Country in general, and to the Suckling Farmer of Houſe-Lambs in particular, to the Woollen Manufacture, to the Fellmonger, to the Glover, and to many other Trades and Callings, who have Part, or all of their Dependence on manufacturing the ſeveral Parts of Lambs and Sheeps Bodies? Oh! what would the great Increaſe of Lambs and Sheep produce? which may be brought to paſs by cauſing thoſe Ewes to lamb twice a Year, that are not only kept for Suckling Houſe-Lambs, but thoſe Ewes alſo that are kept all the Year within Grounds, as Thouſands are, where Farmers have no Right or Conveniency of feeding them on Commons; and though ſuch Ewes are folded a little while in Summer-time, yet as they generally have Plenty of Food in ſuch incloſed Grounds, and their Drift does not fatigue them, I ſay, ſuch Ewes may be brought to lamb twice a Year, as well as Weſtern Ewes may, that ſuckle Houſe-Lambs. This moſt profitable Conveniency they greatly want to enjoy in *Dorſetſhire*, *Wiltſhire*, and in other Counties of the Weſt; becauſe much, if not the greateſt Part of their Profit depends on furniſhing Wether Sheep and Ewes in Lamb, to the *Buckinghamſhire*, *Hertfordſhire*, the *Middleſex* and other Farmers; wherefore, if they knew a Method to bring their Ewes to take Ram when they would, it is what they have long wiſh'd for, and undoubtedly would give much to know; which leads me, in the firſt Place, to recite the Words of Mr. *Bradley* on this Account, who, at Page 159, Vol. I. in his Book, intituled, *A general Treatiſe of Huſbandry*, &c. has theſe Words.

What

What a late modern Author ſays, on bringing Sheep to take Ram, ſo that a Farmer may have Lambs in every Month of the Year.-----His Title to this Chapter contains theſe Words, *viz. Obſervations and Conjectures concerning Sheep, and of Methods to bring them artificially to bloſſom, ſo that ſome Sheep, in every Flock, may, in every Month of the Year, produce Lambs.*—" Rich Lands, ſays he, abounding in high Graſs, " may probably be the Occaſion of bringing Ewes to bloſ- " ſom, or to rut ſooner or later in the Year; but to uſe Art " with them, upon ſuch a Foundation, one might have " breeding Sheep for any Month in the Year; it has been " tried upon ſome Creatures, which never have been known " to couple in our Climate, and has had an immediate Ef- " fect on them." He, alſo, proceeds further, and ſays, at *Page* 166, " We are firſt to remark, that the Ewes which " are fed in ſome Parts, where there are invigorating Herbs, " go to rut, or bloſſom, in every Month of the Year, ex- " cept *April*, *May*, or the Beginning of *June*. Theſe " Herbs, ſays he, which are ſo invigorating, and forcing " to the Spirits, are more particularly found in dry than in " wet Places; and, it is very certain, to uſe them ſkilfully, " would contribute to bring Ewes to rut in *April*, and *May*, " ſo that every Month in the Year, ſome of his Sheep may " produce Lambs."

Obſervations on what Mr. Bradley's *has wrote, on bringing Sheep to take Ram, ſo that a Farmer may have Lambs every Month in the Year.*-----This Fellow of the Royal Society and Botaniſt to the Univerſity of *Cambridge*, is allowed to have wrote much to the Purpoſe on Gardening, *&c.* and by his Pen has been very ſerviceable to this Nation; but in this and ſome other Branches of Huſbandry, he has diſcharged himſelf very indifferently; for here he only aſſigns a Probability how Ewes may be brought to take Ram twice a Year, in the naturally Way, but ſays aſſuredly that ſome Animals, by Art, have been brought to couple, in our Climate, that were never known to do ſo before. I ſay the ſame, and that Ewes and Rams may likewiſe be brought to couple, by the Help of Art, at any Time of the Year, as I ſhall preſently give an Account of; but firſt, I ſhall recite the Words of an ancient Author, *A. S.* (whom I ſuppoſe to be *Adam Speed*, Gent. that wrote in 1629) as they are inſerted in a Book, intituled, *The Huſbandman's Inſtructor*, printed in 1697, where he has theſe Words.

What

What an ancient Author writes on Coupling of Ewes and Rams, and of Breeding the beſt Lambs.---" As for the Time, " ſays he, of the Ewes being to bring ſtrong and healthful " Lambs, for a good Breed, chuſe them at two Years old, " and let them receive the Ram in a warm, cloſe Paſture; " for if they are covered much before, the Lambs they pro- " duce will prove weak and unfit for good Breeders, by rea- " ſon the Ewes are not at their Strength, or at leaſt have not " contracted a ſufficient Heat to produce Lambs, ſtrong and " luſty enough to continue in Health. A Ewe, ſays he, " will bear pretty well from two Years to ſeven; though it " is not ſo proper; and for Breeders, keep only the firſt two " or three Years Product. Thoſe Rams deſigned to ſerve " your Ewes, for ſuch Lambs as are intended for Breeders, " before the Bloſſoms come on the Trees, muſt be well fed " in the Cotts, or kept in good Paſture, about a Month, " ere they are turned to them, that ſo they may be full of " Spirits, luſty, and vigorous, and the better able to perform " what they are deſigned for. And, if you perceive, as com- " monly he will do, that the Ram rather covets the old, " than the young Ewes, becauſe they are eaſier woed, ſcat- " ter Blades of Onions and Garlick, in the Way of the " Ram and younger Ewes, that eating them, they may ſtir " up Deſire, and render them both the willinger to a Com- " pliance." Now what Mr. *Bradley* ſays, as to the feeding of Ewes, in high Graſs, to make them prolifick, I think carries little Streſs with it; it's true, here is Meat enough for Ewes, but then it is commonly a rank, flaſhy, watery Sort, that I think will not rightly anſwer his Conjecture; had he ſaid that the Feed of High Graſs in Salt-Marſhes would tend much to this Purpoſe, I ſhould have given him more Credit, for it is well known, that the Graſs and Hay of Salt Marſhes, are of a much hotter Nature, than the long, flaſhy Graſs of freſh Grounds; ſo in Ships laden with Salt, it has been obſerved, that Rats and Mice breed much more in them, than in other Ships; therefore, I think this ancient Author nearer the Mark than Mr. *Bradley*, by ſaying, that Garlick and Onions given to Sheep, will cauſe a Pronenes in them to Coupling, if they will but eat them, which leads me further to obſerve, that had Mr. *Bradley* known the Virtues of the Lady-finger Graſs, the Tyne Graſs, and the Honeyſuckle Graſs, he would undoubtedly have recommended the Sowing of theſe moſt excellent Sorts for this Purpoſe, becauſe, if Ground is laid down with only theſe three

Sorts

Sorts of Seeds, and their Graſſes, improved by Mr. *Livings*'s Manure, they will not only cauſe Ewes to have a Propenſity to take Ram, but will aſſuredly produce the ſweeteſt Butter, Cheeſe, and Fleſh. If Gentlemen, therefore, were truly ſenſible of the Advantages attending the Sowing of theſe Graſs-Seeds, they would not ſow a Parcel of trumpery, promiſcuous, weedy Hay-Seed, out of Hay-Lofts, but ſend to me for them, as I am their firſt Diſcoverer, and the two firſt Sorts are ſold by none but myſelf in *England*. I, alſo, ſell the Receipt to make Mr. *Livings*'s Manure, which, for the great Profit, attending its Uſes, when ſown among Grain, Graſs, Plants, or any Vegetables whatſoever, the Inventor of it endeavoured to obtain a Reward for, to make it publickly known, from the Government, but not receiving it, it remains a Secret to this Day. *N. B.* The few, cheap Ingredients that compoſe this Manure, are to be had in many Parts of the Country. But leaving Treating on the natural Way of prompting Ewes to take Ram, I come now to ſhew how it may be done by artificial Means.

How to make Ewes take Ram, by artificial Means, at any Time of the Year.-----In an ancient large *Engliſh* Book, tranſlated from the *French*, I ſuppoſe, near two hundred Years ago, intitled, *La Maiſon Ruſtique*, the Authors, two Phyſicians, have, among many other Subjects, wrote on Sheep and Lambs; and at Page 155, in the ſaid Book, ſay, That to have many Lambs, you muſt give the Ram and the Ewes Salt-water to drink, ſome Days before they couple, ſo, ſay they, the Ewes will hold better, and the Ram will be the more luſty; but after that the Ewes are with Lamb, you muſt not give them any ſuch Water to drink, becauſe it would cauſe them to caſt their Lambs, before their Time. So far theſe *French* Authors. And now I come to ſhew my artificial Way of forcing Ewes to take Ram, and that is to be done by ſeparating ſix, or more of them from the reſt of the Flock, and give to each Ewe Half a Pint of ſtrong Ale, or Half a Pint of good *October*, mellow, ſilky Beer, and not that which is ſharp by Staleneſs; and, for giving it in the eaſieſt and ſafeſt Manner, you may run the Ale, or Beer, through a Funnel into the Ewe's Mouth, and when the Ewes have been all thus ſerved, put them into a proper Place, not too large, nor too narrow, that the Ewes may be confined among one, or more Rams, that have before been a little better kept than ordinary, for this Purpoſe. Out of ſix Ewes, that I have known take Ram in this Manner, not

one of them has failed proving in Lamb, by only giving each, as I ſaid, Half a Pint of Strong-Beer, made by brewing a Hogſhead of it from eleven Buſhels of Malt. By this Method, with the Help of a ſufficient Number of Hands, an hundred Ewes may be thus doſed with ſtrong Drink, and if Rams enough are provided, they'll preſently all take Ram.

How to know when a Ewe has taken Ram, though ſhe is among a large Flock, at the ſame Time.—To do this, it's only rubbing the Coomb of a Cart-Wheel, over the Breaſt of the Ram, or if Coomb cannot be conveniently had, you may rub his Breaſt over with Redding, and the Colour of it, by his Leaping, will be left behind on the Ewe.

Of the extraordinary Benefits that may ariſe from forcing Ewes to take Ram, at any Time of the Year.----SURELY this muſt be of very great Conſequence to the Nation in general, by furthering its Intereſt in ſeveral Branches of its Trade: Firſt, by increaſing the Number of Sheep and Lambs. Secondly, by giving the Graſier and Farmer an Opportunity to ſtock their Grounds with Sheep and Lambs at an eaſy Rate. Thirdly, by lowering the Price of Mutton and Lamb, and thereby making it become a Food for the Poor, as well as the Rich, to the greater Conſumption of it. Fourthly, by this the Suckling Farmers of Houſe-Lambs, as well as Graſiers and others, may have Lambs at the moſt convenient Times throughout the Year. Fifthly, it will produce greater Quantities of Wool, that, in Courſe, will employ many more Hands than hitherto have been made uſe of, and thus we ſhall be enabled to ſell our Woollen Manufactures at a better Market than any other Nation can.

How to make an hundred Ewes take Ram, in an Hour's Time, by natural Means.----THIS, like the foregoing Account, was never touch'd on by any Author whatſoever, and as I am the firſt that has advanced it, I hope I ſhall deſerve the more Encouragement, from thoſe that receive a Benefit by it. Now, to do this ſerviceable Feat, there muſt be a ſufficient Number of well-fed Rams, ready provided beforehand, and confined in a proper Place, or Yard, in Proportion to the Number of Ewes that are to be rammed, more or leſs, according to Conveniency; and having them in a Field, or other Incloſure, where there is full Room enough to courſe them, with one, two, or more Dogs, you muſt, with the Dogs, fright and run them about the Ground, till all the Ewes ſweat and pant heartily, and when they are brought into this Condition, you are immediately, without

Loſs

Loſs of Time, to confine the Ewes in a Place, and put the Rams directly to them, where when they come to ſtand ſtill they will piſs, and, by their being thus fatigued, they'll ſtand ſtill, and provoke the Rams, till they are all rammed. —If I was to write a full Detail of all the valuable Services this one Secret, that I have here expoſed publickly, will do the World, I might write a Volume on it.

CHAP. V.

Of the Swelling, or Hoving of SHEEP *and* LAMBS, &c.

What is meant by Swelling or Hoving of Sheep.

IN all the Books I ever read, I cannot find that any one of their Authors has accounted, in any tolerable Manner, for this fatal Caſe, notwithſtanding, many Thouſands of Sheep have been killed, by ſuch Swelling or Hoving. They have, indeed, taken Notice of Sheep ſwelling by being poiſoned, with taking in a particular Sort of Worm, as they feed on Graſs, or, by eating ſome poiſonous Herbs; but as to their Hoving by the Feed of Clover, Turnips, or Rapes, it is overlooked by them. Nor does their Omiſſion of it move my Wonder, ſince the common Feeding on Rapes and Turnips, in Fields, has hardly been practiſed a Century; nor is it done at this Day in *Devonſhire*, *Cornwall*, nor in ſome other of the Weſtern and Northern Counties. Wherefore I ſhall here be the more particular, in my Account of this deſtructive, ſudden Malady, by ſhewing its direful Effects, Prevention, and Cure; and, for doing it, in the plaineſt and moſt extenſive Manner, I ſhall here give my Readers a Detail of this important Subject, in writing ſeveral Caſes of it, that have really happened in our County of *Hertford*, where Turnips, I preſume, were firſt ſown in incloſed Fields, for feeding Sheep on them: The like in Reſpect of Rapes, which of late have been ſown in *Hertfordſhire*, and in ſome Parts of *Buckinghamſhire*, though not ſo common as in *Cambridgeſhire*, *Suſſex*, and others, where their Land lies low, wet, and is

of the richeſt Sort. But the moſt common Vegetable of all others, that is apt to hove our Sheep, is Clover-Graſs, which as every conſiderable Plough-Farmer ſows in Chiltern Countries, for feeding their Sheep on it, it ſubjects them to hove, ſwell, and be killed by it; and ſo do Turnips and Rapes, occaſioned, as moſt think, by the great Quantity of a windy Sap, contained in the Sprouts, Leaves, and ſeedy Heads of Turnips and Rapes, and the Stalks and Leaves of Clover, *&c.* This being premiſed, I proceed to ſhew, in a more particular Manner, the Cauſes of Hoving Sheep.

The Cauſe of Sheeps Hoving, by their feeding on Turnips.— It is certain, that there are more Turnips ſown in *Hertfordſhire*, *Suffolk*, and *Norfolk*, than in any other three Counties beſides; the firſt, for feeding and fatting Sheep, and the other, for fatting *Scotch* Runts, and Sheep on them. But, beſides ſowing Turnips for fatting ſome, we feed our Store-Sheep on many Acres of them, as one of the beſt Pieces of Huſbandry practiſed in our Country, becauſe theſe neceſſary Plants, ſerve not only to keep our Sheep in good Fleſh, and Health, during the Severity of cold Winter Weather, but alſo capacitate the Sheep to dung and ſtale much, and thereby fit our Land to produce the beſt Crops of Corn and Graſſes. As to the Feeding our fatting Sheep on Turnips, we commonly begin to put them into the Field about *Allhallontide*, after they have been prepared for it, by living in our Stubbles and Paſtures till that Time; and when the Sheep firſt enter a Field of Turnips, we take care to fill their Bellies well, juſt before they go in, leſt by having too empty a Belly, and too keen an Appetite, they glut themſelves on the Leaves of a ſudden, hove, and die; notwithſtanding, Turnip Leaves, in this their priſtine State, are not near ſo dangerous, as when they have ſtood long enough to ſprout into ſeedy Heads, becauſe, by this Time, their Leaves are got oldiſh, and the leſs furniſhed with a windy Sap. Here, when the Sheep have eaten their firſt hurdled-out Parcel of Turnips, we let them go into another freſh Parcel, and ſo on, till the Field is all eaten up. In doing which, we do not force our fatting Sheep to eat the Turnips entirely up, but after they have ſcoop'd them, and their remaining Parts have been picked up, and eaten pretty well, we let our Store Sheep follow, to feed on, and quite eat up the Shells, or Orts. But when Turnips begin to ſprout, and acquire a begun ſeedy Head, then we alter our Procedure, and before we let our Store-Sheep feed on ſuch ſprouted Turnips, the Shepherd draws a

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Parcel of them out of the Ground, every Morning, and leaves them a Day to wilk and deaden, in order to diveſt their Sprouts of that windy Sap, which would otherwiſe hove the Sheep, and kill them. This is a new Piece of Practice among us, and which every judicious Farmer, that feeds Store-Sheep, in the Field, ſhould not fail to follow; for by it we preſerve our Sheep from that deſtructive Danger, which might be the Death of a whole Flock, in leſs than Half an Hour's Time. But notwithſtanding all this Precaution and Care, it ſometimes happens, that one or more Sheep may be hoved, in feeding on them, as the following Caſe plainly ſhews.

The Caſe of a Hertfordſhire *Farmer, who had nine and twenty Wether-Sheep hove, while they were feeding in a Field of Turnips, five of which Number were killed by it.*—On the 7th Day of *April*, 1745, one of our beſt Farmers had about two hundred Store-Wether-Sheep feeding on Turnips, in one of the incloſed Fields of his Farm, adjoining to mine, nine and twenty of which Number hoved, by the green Sprouts, or ſeedy Heads of the Turnips, notwithſtanding the Care of a reputable Shepherd; for this is an Accident that may preſently happen, by the Sheeps breaking down a Hurdle, or otherwiſe, and ſo getting into, and among, freſh undrawn Turnips, and is of the worſer Conſequence, if it happens in a rainy Day, or dewy Morning. Now the Shepherd ſeeing ſo many hoved, and no body near him, to give him any Aſſiſtance, he did what he could to run them about, in order to diſcharge the Wind out of their Bellies, by Action and Sweating, and by ſo doing he relieved and ſaved many of them, for there were only five of them that died, and they were not entirely loſt; for the Shepherd, when he found they were paſt Recovery, very judiciouſly ſtuck them with his Knife, and then ſent to his Maſter for fetching them home; but the Maſter, enraged, refuſed to come, and falling into a violent Paſſion, proteſted that if the whole Flock died, he would not come into the Field, for that he was ſure it was the Shepherd's Fault, and he would make him pay for them: Upon this the Butcher was ſent for, and as the Sheep were tolerable Meat, he ſold their Joints, and made the moſt of them; however, our Farmer would not be reconciled to the Shepherd, but diſcharged him, and was obliged to pay him his Wages, ſince it could not be proved that the Misfortune happened by the Shepheed's Negligence, as he was all the Time in the Field with them, and made uſe of his beſt En-

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deavours to prevent and recover them. However, it is well they were Store-Sheep, and not fatting Sheep, for fatting Sheep are not in ſuch Danger, as they are always kept with a full Belly of Meat; therefore, Shepherds in our County never draw Turnips for them, but let them feed on the rankeſt Sprouts of Turnips, with little Danger, in a hurdled-out Piece at a Time, for it's rarely ſeen that a fatting Sheep is hoved in Turnips; but it is otherwiſe with Store-Sheep that are drove (perhaps, out of a Fold) every Morning into a Field, where there is little Graſs, or to a diſtant Common, and in the Afternoon brought to bait in a Field of ſprouting Turnips, which, conſequently, muſt create in them a very keen Appetite, and force them to eat ravenouſly on Turnips, where, without the greateſt Care, they will hove and die. 'Tis for this Reaſon, as I ſaid, that Sheperds pull up a Parcel, in a Morning, to wilker and deaden, againſt the Evening; and this will be effectually done, if it is a hot dry Day, but in a cloudy, or rainy Day, the Turnips, ſometimes, will not be withered enough, and thus they may hove and kill many Sheep, if the Flock is a very large one, notwithſtanding all the Care and Endeavours that a Shepherd can make uſe of to prevent it; unleſs he is ſuch a well qualified one, as I ſhall preſently give an Account of, when I write of Sheep hoving in Clover; for I have more to ſay on Turnips.

How a Shepherd ſaved a Sheep from dying, that was near choaked with a Piece of Turnip.- --A SHEPHERD perceiving a Sheep lying on the Ground, and ſtruggling for Life, and finding it almoſt choaked by a Piece of Turnip, that ſtuck in its Throat, he immediately run to the next Hedge, and cut out of it a ſmall Stick, about the End of which he wrapt the Tail of his Shirt, and thruſt it down the Sheep's Throat; this ready Thought and Action of the Shepherd preſently delivered the Sheep, which otherwiſe muſt have certainly died. But had the Shepherd had more Time, if he had cut a Briar and ſtript its outward Rind off, it would have anſwered his Purpoſe better, becauſe, in this Manner, it is made ſoft, and will bend like Whalebone.

The Cauſe of Sheeps hoving and dying in Clover.--THO' this artificial Graſs is now found to be of greater Service to Farmers than any other Sort, not only for feeding Horſes and Cows, but alſo Sheep and Lambs, becauſe it is a Graſs that yields oftenеſt the greateſt Burthen, and therefore feeds more Cattle, than any other Graſs whatſoever; yet this, like the Roſe, and its briary Prickle, has its Fault, and a very

very great one too; for of all Graſſes, there is none ſo much furniſhed with the hoving Quality as this is; and hence it is, that thoſe Sheep, or Lambs, that are fed on it, require the cloſeſt Attendance, and the greateſt Vigilance of Shepherds, to prevent their hoving in it; and for inciting them, and others ſo to do, I ſhall here preſent them with the following Caſes.

The Caſe of a Farmer who had eleven Sheep hoved and died, by feeding in a Clover Field.----THIS Farmer is an eminent one, living about a Mile and Half from *Gaddeſden*, and keeps a Flock, I think, of near Three Hundred Store-Fold-Sheep, that grazes, ſome Part of the Year, on *Dunſtable* Downs, at other Times, on Clover and Turnips in incloſed Fields; and, as this Farmer rents a very large Chiltern Farm, he is obliged to keep a very numerous Flock, and a Shepherd to look after it. Now it happened that one Day this Shepherd ſuffered his Flock to lie in the Fold till eleven o'Clock, in the Morning, before he turned them out of it, then drove them into a Field of Clover, and left them in it to eat their Bellyful, ſuppoſing, I preſume, that the Clover was not rank enough to hove them, and then walked up the Downs, to a little Ale-houſe; but, ſo it was, that before he came back, all, or moſt of the Flock was hoved, and muſt have died, had not another Shepherd come accidentally, by a Path Way, through the ſame Field, where the Sheep were in this hoving Condition; upon which, he immediately drove the Flock about, and thereby ſaved them all but eleven, and they all died.

How an ignorant Shepherd killed a Sheep hoved in Clover, when he thought he had cured it.----THIS ignorant Shepherd ſeeing one of his Flock ſwelled, or hoved very much, in a Field of Clover, he got a rotten Piece of an Aſhen Stick, and run it down the Sheep's Throat, ſaying, I will make you ſpew up the Clover, and, as it happened, it did well of its Hoving or Swelling. But the Maſter coming afterwards into the Field, and ſeeing the Sheep walk about, with an almoſt erected Head, without feeding, enquired of the Fellow, what he had done to the Sheep? He told him; upon which they went to give it a Spoonful of ſweet Oil, for recovering it, but perceiving the Breath of the Creature ſtink more than ordinary, they imagined ſomething extraordinary occaſioned it. And the Sheep being pretty good Meat, they killed it, and found a Piece of the rotten Stick lodg'd in its Stomach.

The

The Method made uſe of, by a judicious Shepherd, to ſave a Flock of Sheep from hoving, while they feed on Clover, or Turnips, or Rapes.----THIS Shepherd I employ, and he is a very ingenious, handy Man, in ſeveral Buſineſſes, having ſerved more than one Farmer, in our Neighbourhood, as a Shepherd, and always behaved himſelf under a very judicious Management, particularly in that of a Flock of Sheep; for when he turned them into a Clover, or Turnip Field, where there was an apparent Danger of hoving, before a Quarter of an Hour's End, he turned them out, and in a Quarter of an Hour's Time more, he brought them in again, and ſo again if he ſaw Occaſion; thus he never feared his Flock hoving that Day, nay, he ſaid, he would pawn his Life on the ſame Account, for that he was ſure of it, by giving the Flock ſuch Intervals of Time, between their ſhort Feedings, and becauſe the Action of driving the Sheep, with the Time they are thus kept from feeding, ſo forwards the Diſcharge of what they had eaten, as to render it harmleſs. Again, as by ſuch Diſcharge, there is a Vacuity in their Stomach for more, but leſs Food, the Sheep thus receives the Clover into it, as it were gradually, and ſo eſcapes the deſtructive hoving Quality, in Clover, or ſprouting Turnips, or Rapes. A Caſe that ſhews the Difference between an experienc'd, judicious, careful Shepherd, and an ignorant, or careleſs one; for here I have made it plainly appear, how eaſily the firſt may ſave a Flock, while the laſt may ruin one preſently. Therefore, I have known a good Shepherd much valued, and kept Year after Year, in the ſame Service, notwithſtanding, he had ſome little Faults, in other Matters, that now and then provoked his Maſter to be angry with him.

How a ſkilful Shepherd ſaved a Sheep that was like to die, by being hoved in Clover.----A SHEPHERD finding one of his Sheep in this Condition, he rolled it on the Ground over and over, and afterwards drove it hard about; which is a Way well enough, if there is no other Remedy at Hand.

The Method taken by a Surry *Farmer to ſave a Sheep's Life that is hoved in Clover or Turnips.*----THIS Perſon told me, when a Sheep is found in this Condition, they do no more than bleed it in the Eye-Vein, and drive it about. It is true, a Sheep may recover thus, but I ſay it may be done much better.

How this is much better practiſed, by this Author.-I TAKE a Penknife, whoſe Point is turned a little upwards, a Form that

that moſt are now made in, and after I have raiſed the Eye-Vein, by rubbing my Thumb hard on it, and parting the Wool, I jobb the broad Point of the Knife, with ſome Streſs on it, and cut it about half-way croſs-wiſe, and as my Thumb is cloſe to the Knife, when it cuts the Vein, I can feel the Depth of the Cut, and not cut it in two; for if it is cut in two, there is no more bleeding in this Part, and if one Eye-Vein won't bleed enough, I bleed that on the oppoſite Side the Face; then, as the Blood runs down, after I have dipt my Fore-finger in ſome Salt, I puſh it, twiſting-wiſe, into the Sheep's Mouth, for its ſwallowing it, and ſo continue puſhing in Salt with the Blood, till no more Blood comes; this, with driving the Sheep about, is a much better Way, than only to cut the Vein, and let the Blood run on the Ground: And I do aſſure my Reader, that this Way is made uſe of by ſome of the moſt ſkilful Sort of Shepherds, not only to relieve a hoved Sheep, but, alſo, to cure ſome other Maladies belonging to them.

The cheapeſt and quickeſt Way to ſave a Sheep's Life that is hove in Clover, Turnips, &c.----As Sheep that are fed on Clover, the Sprouts of Turnips, or Rapes, are very ſubject to hove and die in a Trice, the cheapeſt and quickeſt Way of curing it, is to be endeavoured for; and that is, if a Shepherd has no other Remedy, let him take ſome Mould, or Worm-caſt, or Virgins Mould, or, for Want of theſe, common Mould, and rub the Sheep's Mouth well with it, then piſs into it, and cut the Eye-Vein, and drive it about.

Sheep hoving on the Feed of Cole or Rapes.---- As theſe are rank, growing Plants of the moſt ſucculent ſappy Sort, they are very ſubject to hove Sheep that feed on them, and thoſe that do are chiefly Ewes that ſuckle Houſe-Lambs, becauſe theſe Rapes produce the greateſt Quantity of Milk. Likewiſe Wether-Sheep, as many of them are fatted on Rapes, or Cole, that grow in rich wet Grounds, they are very liable to be killed by the hoving Quality, that theſe Plants abound with, and, therefore, I ſhall by and by give Receipts for curing them, if made uſe of in Time.

Sheep hoving and ſwelling by the Colick and Gripes.--THIS ſometimes is the Caſe with many Sheep, but moſt of all with Store-Sheep; for as theſe are generally kept, ſometimes, with a full Belly, and ſometimes with an empty one, they are ſubject to be hove, or ſwelled, and die, by this Malady, which, when a Sheep has it in a great Degree, hoves, and ſwells it much, ſo as to cauſe it to tumble about, ſprag-

gle, and ſtruggle for Life, and then it is a Chance if it does not die, unleſs timely relieved.

A Sheep ſwelled by the Colick, or Gripes, cured.-------On the 17th Day of *Auguſt*, 1747, one of my Neighbour's Sheep fell down, in the Highway, among the Flock, as it was driving to Fold, and its Belly ſwelled to a great Degree; upon this the Farmer bled it, by cutting off a Piece of its Tail, and drove it about the Field for an Hour, and next Morning it ſeemed as well as any.

Sheep poiſoned, hove, and ſwelled, by licking up and ſwallowing the Tin, or the Taint, or Glow-Worm.----THIS is a dangerous Malady, indeed, and kills many of our Sheep in *Hertfordſhire*, cauſed by the Sheeps feeding on Commons and other Places, where, as they take the Graſs into their Mouths, they ſometimes take in with it, a little Red-Worm, with many Legs, near Half an Inch long, and this they are ſubject to do throughout the Summer Time, as they lie in ſome Places very thick on the Ground, and are poiſoned by it.

The Account that two ancient Authors give of the Taint-Worm, and its Cure.----ONE ancient Author, I ſuppoſe, Mr. *Adam Speed*, writes theſe Words, on the Taint-Worm: Says he, Many Times, eſpecially in bad Paſture, the Sheep will lick up Spiders, poiſonous Worms, or ſome other Infection, that will make them ſick, and very much ſwell. This being perceived, for a ſpeedy Remedy, take, ſays he, Half a Pint of Vinegar, and a Quarter of a Pint of Olive Oil, give it the Beaſt, warm, and keeping him moving up and down for Half an Hour.-----Says another ancient Author; it is a ſmall Red-Worm, with many Legs, much like a Hog-Louſe, they creep on the Graſs; if Sheep, or any other Cattle, do eat one, they will ſwell, and within a Day or two die, if they are not cured; to effect which, take a Quantity of Stale and Salt, and ſtir them together, and give it him ſo; chafe him about a while after, or give him the Juice of the Herb *Robert*.

How a Shepherd found about Half a Score Taint, or Glow-Worms, in the Body of a Sheep, that was poiſoned by them.--IT is well known, by woful Experience, that the Taint, or Glow-worm, infects Meadows, and Commons, *&c.* in great Numbers, and as in ſome Places they lie much thicker than others, a Sheep, while it was feeding, on the common Ground of *Aſkot*, in *Wing* Pariſh, took into its Mouth ſeveral of theſe ſmall Glow-Worms, that being of a very poiſonous Nature,

ſoon made the Sheep ſick, and ſwelled it, to a great Degree; a Boy, about twelve Years old, being, then, Shepherd to the ſame Flock, which conſiſted of about ſeven Score, not knowing what to do to recover the Sheep, it died upon the Spot, and telling the Caſe to another Shepherd, that had the Care of a Flock of Sheep, on the ſame Common, they both agreed to open the Sheep's Belly, to ſee what was the Matter with it, and when they came to examine the Paunch, they found ten of theſe Glow-Worms, which the Sheep had ſwallowed, and was poiſoned by them; now they were ſure theſe were Glow-Worms, becauſe they compared them with one or more Glow-Worms they took up alive, and are the ſame Sort that lie moſtly in and near Hedges, and yield ſuch a glowing, brilliant, ſhining Light to Travellers, eſpecially in a dark Night, that makes it pleaſant to behold them.

How to know whether a Sheep is hoved, or ſwelled, by the Gripes, or by Poiſon.--THIS is what no Author, to this Day, has diſtinguiſhed in his Writings on Sheep, notwithſtanding the Neceſſity there is of doing it; for unleſs a Perſon knows the Nature of the Diſeaſe, I do not know how he ſhould apply a proper Remedy; therefore, I am here to obſerve to my Reader, that if a Sheep ſwells by the Colick, or Gripes, it will ſtamp with its Feet, lie down, and get up, tumble, and toſs about, look now and then on its Side, and ſpraggle much, till it is near dying: But when a Sheep is poiſoned by the Taint, or Glow-Worm, or by Henbane, or Hemlock, it generally evacuates a Pus at its Noſe, like ſo much Yeaſt, and when it is ſwelled to a great Degree, will lie down and die.

How Sheep came to be poiſoned by eating ſtinking Henbane, and ſtinking Hemlock; with an Account, alſo, how two Girls were poiſoned by eating ſome of its Root.----I SHALL firſt begin with an Account of the Henbane.----This is an abſolute Poiſon, as it is cold in the fourth Degree, and is of ſuch a narcotick Quality, that it ought to be made uſe of with as much Caution, ſays a Phyſician, as Opium, if taken into the human Body; and the ſame poiſonous Effect it has likewiſe on Sheep, if they eat it as Graſs; for Sheep, more than any other Animals, are ſubject to be killed by this Vegetable, as it grows about Farm-Yards, in Meadows, and in Woods, *&c.* both in ſwampy and dry Grounds, eſpecially when it is in its infant Growth, for then Sheep may take it, with the Graſs they feed on, and ſo be poiſoned by it. I re-

member a Relation given me of the ſad Effects of Henbane Root, how a Farmer's two Girls were poiſoned by it in the following Manner. Three Siſters, Girls, being together, a Fancy took them to dig up, with a Knife, ſome Henbane Root, that grew near their Father's Farm-Yard, at *Pitſtone*, in *Bucks*, which, when they had ſcraped it, appeared like a very ſmall Carrot, of a whitiſh, or rather yellowiſh Colour; now, one of the three Girls refuſed to eat of it, but two did, and in the Night Time were taken ſo ill, that their Mother thought them bewitched; at laſt, the third Girl, that had not eaten any, confeſſed the Matter, upon which, a Doctor from *Leighton* was ſent for, and came; he ſaid, that had the Girls drank after their eating the Root, he could not have cured them; but as it was, he did. And it is the Opinion of ſome of the knowing Sort of Shepherds, that many Sheep are poiſoned, and killed, by eating Henbane, as they are by Hemlock, that grows in much the like Places as Henbane does; wherefore, I ſhall, after I have given an Account what ancient Authors have preſcribed, for the Cure of Sheep poiſoned, by eating unwholeſome Things, give likewiſe a Receipt of my own, that has been often practiſed with Succeſs. *N. B.* Hemlock kills Rabbits, preſently, that eat it in Hutches.

What James Lambert, *and another ancient Author ſays of curing the Swelling of a Sheep's Belly.*----THIS is cauſed, ſays he, by unwholeſome Food; to remedy it, bleed in the Tail, and give a Drench of Water and brown Sugar, wherein Bay Berries, Rue, and Camomile have been boiled, till the Water be very ſtrong of them, and then a Quarter of a Pint of Olive Oil. The ſame Author ſays, alſo, in another Place of his Book, that after the Sheep is bled, by cutting off a Bit of its Tail, the Blood ſhould be mixed with Sallad Oil, the Juice of Rue, and Flour of Brimſtone, of each an Ounce; keep him in Motion about an Hour after, and it will abate the Swelling, though near to burſting. Says another Author, *Adam Speed*, for Poiſon, by a Sheep's licking up any infectious Thing, you may know it, by the Sheep's ſtaggering and reeling; then open the Mouth, and under the Tongue, you will find Bliſters, cut them off with a ſharp Knife, and rub the Mouth well with Bole Armoniack, and Sage boiled in Chamberlye; then give him a Quarter of a Pint of Olive Oil, in Half a Pint of new Milk.

This Author's Receipt to make a quick effectual Remedy to cure a Sheep that has eaten the Taint, or Glow-Worm, Spiders, Hen-

Henbane, Hemlock, or by eating any other poiſonous Herb, or Inſect.----THIS Receipt is now in Practice, with a few of our moſt knowing Shepherds, who have experienced it with great Succeſs; for as ſoon as they perceive a Sheep, by the before mentioned Signs, to be out of Order, by eating any poiſonous Herbs or Inſects, the Shepherd then (that ought always to have Sweet Oil, and Tar near him) ſhould mix Tar and Oil together, Half as much Oil as Tar, and give a Lick of this Mixture on the flat End of a Stick, and renew the ſame, by putting the like Quantity into the Sheep's Mouth, in a Quarter, or Half an Hour's Time after, and ſo more or leſs, as the Sheep appears more or leſs ill. This, if applied in Time, will anſwer, without bleeding the Sheep.

To cure a Sheep hoved, or ſwelled, by the Colick or Gripes.--FOR this ſee my own Receipt, in my ſecond Book, compoſed of Gin and Barley-Meal.

To cure a Sheep hoved and ſwelled by eating the Sprouts of Turnips, or Rapes, or by feeding on Clover, Lucerne, or any other Vegetable, by a Receipt of this Author's.-- HERE let me tell my Reader, that a good Shepherd, who has the Care and Government of a Flock of Sheep, in the Chiltern Country, ought not to be without a Bottle of Gin by him, eſpecially when his Sheep are feeding on Turnips, or Rapes, or on Clover, or Lucerne Graſſes, becauſe in their feeding upon any of theſe Foods, a whole Flock is ſometimes expoſed to be hoved and killed by it in Half an Hour's Time; and becauſe, (as I have before remarked) a Shepherd may, maugre all his Care, have ſeveral of his Sheep hoved, in ſuch their Feeding, it therefore highly concerns him to have a Remedy at Hand; for in this Caſe, there is not much Time to compoſe a Medicine; but having a Bottle of Gin, wherein ſome fine beaten Pepper is infuſed, he is ready, at once, to give to each hoved Sheep Half a Quarter of a Pint of it, without fearing he gives it too large a Doſe; for, I aſſure him, a Sheep will bear three Times this Quantity, without Damage. If therefore one ſuch Doſe does not anſwer, repeat it.

The laſt Remedy to be made uſe of for ſaving a Sheep's Life, that is deſperately hoved.----IN this laſt, and deſperate Caſe, there is but one Way left to ſave a Sheep's Life, and this has been done with Succeſs, therefore may be ſucceſsfully done again: Stick a Penknife into the Paunch of ſuch a Sheep, or Lamb, and for knowing the Place where to do it, obſerve

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to jobb the Point in between the Short-Rib and the Huckle-Bone, and if you have an Opportunity, lay a Plaiſter of Pitch on the Wound.

Of Worms, and their fatal Effects in the Bodies of SHEEP.

A Caſe, ſhewing how a Sheep was killed by Worms; and how by it, a Shepherd learnt to cure and ſave another Sheep that was troubled with Worms.

ABOUT the Middle of *December*, 1747, a four-tooth'd Wether-Sheep died out of the Flock, belonging to Mr. *Thomas Laurence*, of *Ward*, lying two Miles from *Gaddeſden*; and when the Shepherd was ſkinning it, a Day-Labourer, that works ſometimes for him and me, ſeeing it, aſked the Shepherd, what the Sheep died of? He told him, he thought of Worms, becauſe he ſaw it now and then void one; upon this they concluded to ſearch the Sheep's Body, and when they came to examine the Paunch, they found as many White-Worms, about three or four Inches long, others leſs, as a Man could hold in his Hand, and that they had eaten a Hole through it. This Sight moved the Labourer to tell the Shepherd, that he was once informed, by a Traveller, that Oil of Bays and Saffron, beat up together into a Salve, would cure a Child of Worms, if its Back and Belly was anointed with it, and that he afterwards told two Women of it, whoſe Children were troubled with Worms, and they were cured by it; and, ſays the Labourer, if I had ſome of it here, I would put it to the Worms, and try if it would kill them; ſays the Shepherd, I will keep ſome of them in a glazed earthen Pot, and go and get the Stuff; accordingly he went to *Dunſtable*, at three Miles Diſtance, and bought two Pennyworth of each, which, after they were beaten up to a Salve, a little of it was mixt among the Worms, and it cauſed them all to die preſently. This ſucceeding, it encouraged the Shepherd to try another in the following Manner; remembring, that another Sheep, in his Flock, voided Worms, as the other had done, he took it out of his Flock, and put a little of this Salve, into the Sheep's Mouth, about the Bigneſs of a Filbert, and did the ſame next Day, the Effect of which was, that this ſame Sheep, the ſecond or third

Day,

Day, voided a Quantity of dead Worms, and conſequently ſaved the Sheep's Life. And now as I have here given my Account of Worms, I will, alſo, give my Reader thoſe from three ancient Authors, as follows.

Adam Speed's *Receipt to cure a Sheep of Worms.*----SAYS he, theſe are known by the Sheep's beating his Belly with his Feet, ſtamping and turning his Head back to look on his Sides. To remedy this, ſtamp the Leaves of Coriander, mix the Juice of it with Honey, give him it warm, faſting, and afterwards warm Water, wherein Wormwood had been ſteeped, to drink. Now another Author, *James Lambert*, thinking to improve this Receipt, ſays:

James Lambert's *Receipt for Bots, or Worms, in the Belly of a Sheep.*--OBSERVE, ſays he, theſe, by the Sheep's ſtamping often, and ſtriking at its Belly with its Feet, looking on its Sides, *&c.* To remedy it, ſtamp Leaves of Coriander, and Wormwood, mix the Juice with Honey, and give it the Sheep faſting in a little Vinegar or Verjuice. A third Author, *J— B—*, gives us a third Receipt, following.

J— B—'s *Receipt for the Worms in the Guts of a Sheep.*----TAKE, ſays he, a Quantity of the Juice of Horehound, with ſome Leek Blades and bruiſe them, and ſo give it to him, and it will help him. To which I add

Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt for Worms, in the Guts of Sheep or Lambs.*----SHEEP, ſays he, are as ſubject to Worms in their Guts, or Stomach, as any other Cattle whatſoever, which you ſhall know by beating their Bellies with their Feet, and by looking continually at their Bellies. The Cure is, to take the Leaves of Coriander, and ſtamp them, and then mixing the Juice thereof with Honey, to give the Sheep to drink; and then chafe him a little, and keep him two or three Hours faſting. Here may be ſeen, how theſe ſeveral ancient Authors were put to it to find out new Receipts, particularly for the Cure of Worms in Sheep; for, notwithſtanding the Receipt is little or nothing varied, yet they ventured to print it, each one as their own Receipt. But of all their Receipts to deſtroy Worms, in the Body of a Sheep, I think the following one exceeds, which is, to get a Quarter of a Pint of Juice out of Green Wormwood and Sage, which give in warm Milk to a Sheep; and for making ſuch a Doſe the more effectual, put ſome Bay-Salt, and a little Allum in the Watering-Trough, in a Time when Sheep are obliged to drink it, either confined, or in the Field; in the firſt, when Sheep are fed on dry Meat, in a cloſe Place;

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in the laſt, I have ſeen Water drawn out of a chalky Well, near *Enford*, in *Wiltſhire*, for a Flock to drink it out of a Trough in the Field.

Of White-Water, in a Sheep's Belly, its Nature, and Cure.

Of the Lincolnſhire *Receipt for curing a Sheep of the White, or Red-Water.*

IN my ſecond Book of *The Shepherd's Guide*, I have ſhewn how a Perſon may know when a Sheep is dangerouſly troubled with a Water in its Belly; and that when it has too much White-Water in it, if not remedied, in Time, it will turn either to a Red-Water, or a Rot. Now, I have here to add, that as *Lincolnſhire* is a County that abounds in much wet, low, rich Land, their great Sheep are, more than ordinary, ſubject to breed and lodge a Water in their Bellies, that frequently turns to the fatal Red-Water, or Rot. A very ingenious Gentleman, therefore, who reſides in this County, has of late invented a moſt excellent, cheap, and ready Method of curing Sheep of Water in their Bellies. For as no Animal's Skin is of ſo porous a Nature, as that of a Sheep, nor any Beaſt kept more on green Meat, Sheep, above all other Creatures, are moſt liable to be killed by the Breed and Lodgment of Water in their Bellies, which is the firſt Stage of the Red-Water, or Rot: A Malady that is brought on, chiefly, by Sheeps feeding on dirty, flaſhy Graſs; dirty, I ſay, becauſe on many Grounds, where Thunder Showers fall, or where Ground is covered by Inundations of Water, there conſequently muſt be a Scum, or Naſtineſs waſhed about it, that often proves the Bane of Sheep. Now to prevent and cure Water in a Sheep's Belly, Elixir of Vitriol, is very judiciouſly adapted to it, to be given each Sheep in ſuch a Quantity, and in ſuch a Manner, as I ſhall preſently direct; previous to which, I ſhall here recite the Words of Dr. *Quincey*, as he delivers them in his Diſpenſatory, for the better informing my Readers of the excellent Nature this Elixir is endowed with, as follows, *viz.* " This Medicine (ſays " he) is greatly come into Practice, of late, and very deſervedly, for it mightily ſtrengthens the Stomach, and will " do good Service, ſometimes, where Bitters avail nothing, " eſpecially

" eſpecially in Relaxations from Debauches, and over-feed-
" ing: This very well imitates the Virtues of the celebrated
" Bark, and is properly given in all Intentions, where that
" is found to ſucceed, ſo that by its Help Intermittents,
" and many Diſorders, from too lax a State of the Solids,
" may be removed with a much leſs Quantity of the Bark,
" than they might otherwiſe require. It has, alſo, an In-
" fluence over many Diſtempers of the Head, to Advantage,
" and preſerves againſt Epilepſies, Apoplexies, Palſies, and
" rheumy Defluctions. It may be given from ten to thirty
" or forty Drops, in any ſuitable Vehicle, once, twice, or
" thrice a Day, obſerving to take it when the Stomach is
" moſt empty, as faſting in a Morning, a little before
" Dinner, and in the Afternoon. This, ſays he, is the ve-
" ry Medicine, which Dr. *Fuller*, Author of the *Medicina*
" *Gymnaſtica*, gives an Account of, in his Appendix, to have
" been ordered him by a Phyſician, now of the greateſt
" Note, and by the ſole Help of which he was recovered
" from a moſt deplorable Decay of Conſtitution, particular-
" ly of the Stomach, and continual Reaches to vomit for
" ſome Time, though from a Return afterwards, into the
" ſame Irregularities, which was driving away the Hyppo,
" by ſpirituous Liquors, he relapſed and died."—Thus by ſhewing my Reader, what exalted Effects this Elixir has on the human Body, he may eaſily form a Notion of its great Power, in curing a Sheep of the Water, or any other Ail in its Belly. Now what remains is to aſcertain the Doſe, in Proportion to the Strength and Nature of a Sheep, which may be done by the following Receipt, *viz.*

The famous Lincolnſhire *Receipt, for curing a Sheep of the White-Water, in its Belly, and thereby preventing the fatal Effects of the Red-Water, and Rot.*----Mix a Tea Spoonful of Elixir of Vitriol with four Spoonfuls of Water, and pour it through a Funnel, or out of a Vial, or Bottle, into a Sheep's Mouth, once a Week, for two or three Weeks ſucceſſively. This Receipt is the capital Remedy that is now in Practice with ſeveral Perſons, whom the Author of it has communicated it to, in *Lincolnſhire*, and it has anſwered to a Wonder; for as no Sheep can rot before they have a more than ordinary Quantity of Water firſt bred and lodged in their Bodies, a judicious Farmer may eaſily judge, as I have ſaid, of it by feeling, or otherwiſe; and if they have it, it's only giving the Sheep this Elixir, and it will ſave them from the Red-Water and Rot, although the Sheep feed all the while

in moorish or marshy Grounds. This most serviceable Receipt was given me by a worthy, ingenious *Lincolnshire* Gentleman, in Company with a Right Honourable, and several others, as they were at my House, on the 26th Day of *October*, 1747, to view my excellent, new-invented, and most serviceable, light, four-wheel Drill-Plough, that carries two Hoppers on it, one that holds a Bushel of Soot, or Ashes, or Malt-Dust, or any other Powder Manure, and the other that holds a Peck of any Seed, with a little Harrow fixed to the Tail of it, all which are drawn by a Man, or one little Horse, and sows Wheat, or Barly, or Oats, or Thetches, or Pease, or Turnips, or Lucern Seed, by shifting its Nuts or notch'd Boxes. This Drill-Plough may sow an Acre and a Half of Wheat in one Day, in Drills, at a Foot asunder, and two Acres, in one Day, with Turnip Seed, or Rape Seed, or Lucern Seed, and far exceeds all Inventions, whatsoever, of this Kind; and so does the new invented Horse-break, for hoeing several Acres in a Day, of the interval Ground, between Drills of Corn, or Turnip Seed, or Rape Seed, or artificial Grasses; both which Instruments I sell at my House, as those that may improve Land, to the higheft Degree of Profit, for the least Charge and Trouble. But to return to my Subject, I have further to add, that as one of the Gentlemen understood I was writing the *Shepherd's Guide*, he was so good as to give me this Receipt, and another for curing a Sheep of the Wood-Evil, by an Assa-fœtida Pill: But before I conclude this Article of curing Sheep, of too much Water in their Bellies, I shall here give my Reader an Account what ancient Authors say of it, as follows.

The Cause and Cure of Water in the Belly of a Sheep, by Adam Speed.----THIS many Times, says he, by over-moist Feeding, hangs bagging between the outward Skin and Rim of the Belly, and if not timely removed, causes the Rot. It may be done by gathering to one Part, as may be by grasping and driving it with your Hands, then slit a little Hole, and put in a Quill, and so squeeze it out; then anoint the Place with Tar and Butter, and it will heal; but if it be within the Rim of the Belly, it must be purged out, for if that be cut it cannot be closed again; it may be done with Half an Ounce of Aloes, and an Ounce of Turmerick, in warm Milk, given for a Fortnight, fasting.

The Cause and Cure of Water in a Sheep's Belly, by James Lambert.--THIS Author, who, in his Book printed in 1703, says, that he has been a Practitioner above five and thirty

Years, writes the following Receipt, as if it was his own Invention, when it's plain he took it out of *Adam Speed*'s Book; for the Receipts are near one and the ſame.---This is, ſays *Lambert*, by over-moiſt Feeding, getting between the Skin, and the inner Rim of the Belly; graſp it hard with your Hand till it riſes like a Bladder, then ſlit a little Hole with a Penknife, and put in a Quill, and much of the Water, by preſſing, will run out: Then anoint the Place with a Mixture of Tar and Butter to heal it; but if it be among the Guts, within the Rim of the Belly, you may purge it out with Aloes and Turmerick, each an Ounce, in warm Milk, faſting, three or four ſucceſſive Days.

A Remedy for the Water in the Belly of a Sheep, by J---B----, *Gent.*---YOU muſt (ſays this Author) cut a Hole in the Belly of a Sheep, put in a Feather, and let out the Water, and ſtitch it up again.

How this Author's Rue Drink infallibly prevents the Breed of the White and Red-Water, in the Belly of a Sheep or Lamb.---WHAT would many Farmers, and others, give, if they could readily and eaſily come by, and depend on, a very cheap Remedy, for preventing the Damage of the White and Red-Water, in their Sheep and Lambs? A Remedy that may be preſently made at any Time of the Year, if a Perſon will but keep a very little Spot of incloſed Ground, planted with Rue, or Herb-de-Grace, and the Salt I ſhall preſently give an Account of; as to the Rue, it is of ſo hardy a Nature, as to keep green in a Garden throughout mild Winters, and thus is ready to be cut for this Uſe at any Time. And as great Numbers die, by Means of the White and Red-Water, both of Sheep and Lambs, in feeding on moory, or in freſh, marſhy Lands, or on Turnips, or Rapes, I here propoſe a Receipt that will infallibly prevent this deſtructive Malady, if given now and then to a ſound Sheep or Lamb, once in a Fortnight, in the greateſt Danger, or once in a Month, when otherwiſe: Four or five Spoonfuls of this my Rue-Drink, is enough for a Sheep at a Time, and three for a Lamb; and then let them go where they will, and feed on what they will, I am certain they cannot die by the White or Red-Water.

An infallible Remedy for preventing the Rot in SHEEP.

The Copy of a Letter of Thanks, from a certain Gentleman, Owner and Occupier of a conſiderable Eſtate, to this Author, for his Receipt, by which he prevented, and kept ſound his Flock of Wether-Sheep from rotting, when all the Sheep of the Country about him died of the Rot.

Mr. ELLIS,

I AM very ſorry my great Hurry of Buſineſs has ſo long prevented my anſwering your two Letters, for both which I am very much obliged to you: Nor am I leſs ſenſible, I do aſſure you, both of the Pleaſure and Improvement I receive from your Correſpondence, by the Delay of my Anſwer. And now I thank you for your kind Advice about my Sheep, for I have the Pleaſure to aſſure you, that I have had a moſt undeniable Demonſtration of the Efficacy of your Receipt; for you may remember, that about this Time Twelvemonth, when I firſt conſulted you, and began to apply it, you adviſed me not to venture the Ewe-Flock for fear of hurting them; and to my Wethers I followed your Directions, and very negligently omitted it to my Ewes when they had lamb'd; the Conſequence whereof is, that my Ewes are all rotten, but a ſounder Parcel of Wethers this Country cannot produce; nor is there ſo much as a Speck on their Livers, when almoſt all the Sheep in the Country are rotten. And what is more, my Wethers went all the Summer on a wet Common, and my Ewes within Land, on good ſound Ground. I wiſh I could be inſtrumental for procuring you ſuch publick Encouragement, for your uſeful Diſcoveries, as your Merit deſerves.

Hooke, Suſſex, Jan. 10, 1745-6. *I am, Sir, your ſincere Friend, and affectionate Servant.*

Remarks upon this Gentleman's Certificate.----As this worthy, ingenious Gentleman correſponded with me, and deſired me to ſend him a Receipt to prevent his Sheep from rotting, that were in the utmoſt Danger, by feeding daily on a wet Common, in a very wet Seaſon, I ſent him the following one, believing him to be a Gentleman of Honour, though a total Stranger to me; however, as I was certain, that

my

my Receipt, if ſtrictly purſued, would infallibly prevent any Sheep rotting, notwithſtanding they all the while fed on the worſt of mooriſh, or marſhy Ground, I was in Hopes of ſome Return for it, and accordingly I had; for after a Trial was duly made on his Flock, and a ſufficient Length of Time allowed for a full Proof of the Efficacy of my Receipt, this ſame Gentleman ſent to know where he might ſend a Preſent to *London* for me; and after I had informed him, I received one of three Guineas Value, and ſince that, more of his Generoſity, and all this before I ſaw his Face; but afterwards I had the Honour to be viſited by him at *Gaddeſden*, and invited to his Seat at a conſiderable Diſtance, to which I went, and was entertain'd to my Wiſh; and the more, for being a Spectator of his ingenious Management in the Improvement of his Land. Thus a Gentleman gets, not only by conſulting my Books, but their Author likewiſe; for, as Agriculture is a boundleſs Science, that takes in the Knowledge of Minerals, Vegetables, and Animals, it cannot reaſonably be ſuppoſed, that I can write a compleat Syſtem of it in a few Books: No, this is what cannot be done by any Man, although Mr. *Bradley* was pleaſed to give one of his, the pompous, but vain Title of, *A compleat Body of Huſbandry*. I think, with this, I have wrote nineteen Books, all (except one) on Huſbandry, and yet confeſs, with all Humility, I am infinitely ſhort of being capable to write a compleat Body of Huſbandry; notwithſtanding, I preſume I may ſay, I have bid as fair for it as any other Author, if the impartial Character of my Works, by ingenious Gentlemen, altogether Strangers to me, is to be believed. This leads me to obſerve to my Readers, whoever they be, that they are very welcome to conſult me by Letter, provided Poſtage is paid to my Houſe, that ſtands thirty Miles diſtant from *London*, upon any Account of Huſbandry; for as I live in, and occupy my own Farm, conſiſting of fourteen incloſed Fields, beſides renting the Glebe Land of our Pariſh, I am generally at home, and ready to ſend Anſwers accordingly. To which I have further to add, that I can furniſh any Gentlemen with Men that are well ſkilled in the Art of draining wet Land, by making ſubterranean Cuts in the Ground, and thus, with other Means that I can inform him of, improve the ſame in the higheſt Degree: Alſo thoſe that are accounted the acuteſt Fellows in *England*, for ſetting new Hedges, and plaiſhing old ones, and felling of Trees, ſo as to make the

moſt of their Wood; any Plowman, or other Sort of Servant; any Sort of Plow made uſe of in *Hertfordſhire*, *Kent*, &c. as the four-wheel, excellent Drill-Plow and its Break, the Fallow, the Wheat, and the Pea-ſtitch Plow, the Turnwreſt Plow, the Swing Plow, the Foot Plow, and the Patent ſmall, but very ſerviceable Plow, and the double Plow; with the moſt profitable, Kerroon Cherry-Tree, which bears a hardy, pleaſant, large, black Cherry; with the Bell-Orange Pear-Tree, and the Parſnip Apple-Tree, both which returns ripe Fruit always in Harveſt Time, and are the beſt Sorts, of all others, at that Time of Year, for refreſhing the Workmen in ſultry Weather, and ſaving their eating much Cheeſe, by baking both in Pyes and Paſties: In ſhort, no Gentleman whatſoever ought to be without this Pear and this Apple-Tree, becauſe of the extraordinary, profitable, pleaſant Service, they yield to any Family that has them in Plenty.

The infallible Receipt to prevent Sheep and Lambs rotting. ---CUT Rue very ſmall and put a heaped, double Handful of it into a Pail of Water over Night; next Morning ſqueeze out the Rue from between your Hands, ſo that there muſt be none of it left in the Water; then mix as much Salt with this Rue Liquor, as will make it ſtrong enough to ſwim an Egg; and when you have thrown over the Top of the Brine, take a Halfpennyworth of Flower of Brimſtone, and give five large Spoonfuls, or Half a Pint of it, to each Sheep, through a Funnel, or out of a Bottle, once in nine Days, in the greateſt Danger: But where the Danger is not extraordinary, once in fourteen, or twenty, or more Days, will be ſufficient.---Thus I have expoſed to the Publick an experienced Receipt, which, for its Value, is worth ſome Thouſands of Pounds, and yet I might, perhaps, want Bread if I could not get it otherwiſe; for notwithſtanding the ſuperlative Excellency of this Receipt, which has ſaved ſeveral Flocks of Sheep from the Rot, when moſt, or all about them, were deſtroyed by it, I know of but two Gentlemen that were wiſe enough, in *England*, to ſend to me for it, though many Hundreds were apprized of it by my Books, that I dare ſay ſtood in great Need of it, if not directly for their own Advantage, it might be ſo to them by their Tenants Knowledge and Uſe of it: For ſo fatal has the Rot of Sheep been, that I have known a great Farmer, in *Ayleſbury* Vale, loſe two Flocks of Sheep by it, in the Year 1735, which ſo crippled his Pocket, that in three or four

four Years after, he broke, and, undoubtedly, many more did the ſame, by the like Calamity; which not only proved to be the Ruin of the Tenant, but it alſo redounded to the Landlord's Prejudice, and, in ſome Degree, was a Damage to the Nation; for, in ſuch a Year, People muſt eat much rotten unwholſome Mutton, that, conſequently, raiſed the Price of ſounder. The Woollen Manufacture muſt alſo ſuffer much by ſuch a great Rot, becauſe of the Badneſs and Scarceneſs of Wool: Misfortunes that might have been prevented, had this my cheap, and infallible Receipt been made Publick in Time: And why I did not do it, was, becauſe I could not meet with tolerable Encouragement, from either the Government, or from private Perſons; partly from a Diſbelief that my Receipt would not have this great and valuable Effect on Sheep, as I aſſerted it had by repeated Experience; for even the Farmer is apt to ſay, it is a Thing impoſſible to prevent a Sheep rotting while he feeds on moory, or on freſh marſhy Ground. And thus my Receipt has lain in Obſcurity, to the great Detriment of Thouſands of Graſiers and Plow-Farmers, who are obliged to truſt chiefly to the Benefit of their Sheep, for paying their Rent and Taxes; for there is hardly any ſuch Thing, for the latter Sort eſpecially, to carry on their Farming to any Purpoſe without them, becauſe Sheep not only dreſs the Land, and prepare it for the fertile Growth of Corn, Graſs, Turnips, *&c.* but alſo make Returns of Lambs, and Wool, and fat Carcaſſes. Now, for a Farmer to be deprived, as it were, at once, of his Flock of Sheep, muſt be a very deplorable Loſs indeed, as it is loſing the very Sinews of his Profit; for what muſt become of his Farming? Why, if he has not a Stock of Money to buy another Flock in, he conſequently muſt break, and very probably the Landlord's Seizure will fall ſhort of his Rent: And how the Damage of a general Rot among Sheep affects the Nation, I ſhall conſider more at large, when I write on Wool.

Of the Wood-Evil, by ſome called the Moor-Evil, by others the Youghth, or Knuckle-Evil, in SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

Adam Speed's *Receipt for the Wood, Moor, or Knuckle-Evil,*

THIS (ſays he) is often occaſioned by their over-much Browſing on Hawthorn and Oak-Leaves, or ſuch-like.

like, which the Lambs eſpecially are very apt to do, and it is known by their ſtaggering or turning round; for that Manner of Feeding ingenders cold, corrupted Blood, or Phlegm gathered together about the Brain; and indeed, this Diſeaſe is very dangerous, and makes them ſuddenly fall down, before thoſe that are ignorant of it, ſcarce know they ail any Thing.—To remedy this (ſays he) diſſolve Aſſa-fœtida in warm Water, and put the Quantity of Half a Spoonful into each Ear of the Lamb, and a Spoonful into that of a Sheep; then ſtop the Ears cloſe, and it will work the Diſtemper from the Brain, and entirely cure them, if timely taken. Of this he is not altogether right, for it takes Sheep in their Joints, and is called by ſome the Joint-Evil. I knew a Farmer that had a Sheep that had it in its Legs and Back, and drew his hind Part after him; not knowing what to do, he let the Sheep pine and die.

Mr. J---- B----*'s Receipt for curing the Wood-Evil.*---- THERE is a Sickneſs (ſays he) amongſt Sheep, that is called the Wood-Evil. It taketh them in the Spring of the Year, and moſt commonly in their Legs, or in their Necks, and maketh them to halt, and hold their Necks awry: For the moſt Part thoſe Sheep or Lambs that have this Sickneſs, die within a Day or two. The beſt Remedy is to waſh them a little, and to change their Ground, to bring them to a low Ground and freſh Graſs; for this Sickneſs is moſt commonly in hilly, ley, or ferny Grounds. Some, for this Sickneſs, let their Sheep Blood in a Vein under the Eye.---But, I ſay, that the Wood-Evil is much commoner in Vale, wet Land, than on hilly Ground, where Sheep have it in the fore, or hind Joints of their Legs, as big almoſt as Spavins in a Horſe, which makes them call it the Knuckle-Evil.

The Huſbandman*'s* Jewel*'s Receipt to cure the Wood-Evil in Sheep and Lambs.*---THIS Author calls it the Youghth, or Knuckle-Evil, or Crook. It hath (ſays he) a Name from the Neck or Leg growing crooked, by Reaſon of the ſaid Diſeaſe; ſome call it the Wood-Evil, and others the Leaf: Some ſuppoſe they get it by feeding upon Wood, or ſome Leaf upon the Ground: I rather ſuppoſe (ſays he) they take it by ſmelling of ſome Herb or Weed upon the Ground, becauſe they chiefly have it in *April*, or *May*, when ſuch Things have got the greateſt Smell, and becauſe none but Sheep or Lambs have it, when they are in high Living and full of Blood.---The Cure (ſays he) is to take Beef Brine, boil

boil and ſcum it well, and put in the Juice of Onions and Pennyroyal, with a Quantity of Aqua Vitæ, and give every Lamb, or ſuch Sheep as you do ſuſpect to have the Diſeaſe, the Quantity of three or four Spoonfuls at a Time, in the Beginning of *April*, and let them blood under the Eye; alſo give them a good Smear of Tar over both Cheeks a little above the Noſe, not upon the Lips, for fear of ſmearing the Udder of the Ewe, which will make her dry up her Milk: This do again in *May*, if you think they ſtand in Need, and you need do it no more that Year; for the Diſeaſe (God willing) will be thoroughly cured.

This Author's Receipt, from Buckinghamſhire, *to cure the Wood, the Moor, or Knuckle, or Crook-Evil in Sheep.*---- As I live but three Miles from the fertile Vale of *Ayleſbury* in *Buckinghamſhire*, a Man that was ſome Years a Shepherd in this Vale, and is ſometimes in my Service, ſays, that in this County, what they call the Wood-Evil in ſome other Parts, they call it here the Moor-Evil, becauſe they conceive it is bred in a Sheep or Lamb, by its lying on moory, cold Ground, in this Country, and takes Sheep, for the moſt Part, in the Fold, becauſe here they are confined to one Place, and cannot chuſe better Ground, which is apt to chill the Limbs of a Sheep, and deprive it of their Uſe. Sometimes alſo the cold Quality of this Diſeaſe cauſes Sheep and Lambs to lie down, turn, and often twiſt about, as if the Beaſt, by this, endeavoured to get Eaſe; at other Times it makes the poor Creature turn its Head to and fro, as if it could not command it. In ſhort, it ſeemingly is in a Beaſt, as the Rheumatiſm is in the human Body; but it ſeldom or never ſeizes fatting Sheep, which ſhews it is occaſioned by poor Feeding, and bad Lying; and which has ſuch an Influence on many Sheep, that if a Remedy is not applied in Time, they commonly die in a ſhort Time. It is true, that now and then a Sheep recovers of itſelf, without any Help; but it is rare it does ſo. When an underſtanding Shepherd finds this to be the Caſe, he ſearches about low, moory Grounds, to diſcover a Puddle of Water that has a creamy Head on it; and when he has taken off this creamy, or ſcummy Head, he takes a Pint and a Half of this Water; this done, he ſearches about to find ſome Moor-Graſs: Now this Moor-Graſs, in the Pariſh of *Wing*, they call *Roſa-Solis*, as it is diſtinguiſhed by Shepherds from other Graſſes, who know it by its three-ſquare Leaf, Rapier-like; for its Blade, like that, is thickiſh, and ſhaped

ſomewhat in the Flag Kind, bearing a yellowiſh Flower, like that of a Daffadowndilly, and ſeldom runs above a Handful high, in a ſpungy ſoft Subſtance. This Graſs being got, they boil ſome of it in a Pint and a Half of the moory Water, then ſtrain it; and when only lukewarm, they give a Pint of it, at twice, to a Sheep in one Day, and ſay they never knew it fail curing. But ſome may object and ſay, if a Sheep falls under this Diſeaſe, in a Chiltern Country, where there is no Moor-Graſs to be got, what muſt they do then? Or, if it is to be got in Summer, it may not be had in Winter. To theſe I anſwer, that although Sheep may be ſeized with this Diſeaſe in a hilly Country, where there is no moory Graſs to be found, yet it may be gathered in *May*, *June*, or *July*, in moory, boggy Grounds, that lie at a Diſtance. And as to its being not to be gathered in the Winter, a prudent, foreſighted Shepherd may do as thoſe do in *Wing* Pariſh, gather and dry this Moor-Graſs in Summer, for having it ready to uſe as aforeſaid, at any Time of the Year.

This Author's moſt excellent Receipt, from Lincolnſhire, *where it is made uſe of, as a capital and famous one for the Wood-Evil.*---THIS Receipt was likewiſe (as I am informed) invented and made uſe of, by a very worthy, ingenious Gentleman living in *Lincolnſhire*, where they call the Diſeaſe, I am here writing of, the Wood-Evil; and as it has anſwered in theſe Parts to a Wonder, it is now become a capital, famous one, for the Cure of this Diſtemper; which, in ſome Places of this County, as well as in the Iſle of *Ely*, and many others, Sheep are very ſubject to fall under, becauſe of the Lowneſs, the Wetneſs, and the Coldneſs of their marſhy Grounds. It is ſaid, in *Lincolnſhire*, to be a contagious Malady, and cripples Sheep when it ſeizes them in their Legs, to a great Degree, and is the Death of many. ---The Cure is performed by giving a Sheep a Pill of Aſſafœtida, about the Bigneſs of a Horſe-Bean, once or more. ---This Drug, being a Gum, made from the Juice of the Laſer-Tree, growing in *Lybia* and *Syria*, is of a hot, dry Nature, in the third Degree; and as a Phyſician writes, it cuts, attenuates, is ſplenetick, hyſterick, and vulnerary.--I add what *Gervaiſe Markham* ſays of the curing of this Diſeaſe.

Mr. Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt for curing the Wood-Evil.*---THIS Author, in his Book, printed in the Year 1631, ſays, that this Diſeaſe is Weakneſs, or Straining of the

the Sinews, got by Colds and Surfeits: It is very mortal, and will run through a whole Flock. The Cure is to take Cinquefoil, or five-leaved Graſs, and boil it in Wine, and give the Sheep a Pint thereof to drink, and keep him warm, and chafe his Legs with Oil and Vinegar.---This, undoubtedly, is a good Receipt, but the Charge of the Ingredients, I know, will not be agreeable to a Farmer's Pocket; for if he is to make uſe of a chargeable Receipt, it's two to one Odds, but he'll riſque (and likely loſe) the Life of a Sheep, before he'll be at ſuch an Expence. Wherefore I ſhall here expatiate on the Virtues of Cinquefoil, or five-leaved Graſs, and direct its Uſes in curing ſeveral Diſtempers relating to Sheep and Lambs, in a much cheaper Manner than my Brother-Author, *Markham*, has done before me. But before I begin with the Cures that this Graſs and its Roots will perform, I ſhall recite the Words of a Phyſician, who gives a high Commendation of them, as they affect the human Body; for what is good for that, is likewiſe in ſome Reſpects, good for Beaſts. But before this, I muſt give my Reader a Word more of the Wood-Evil. It is a Diſeaſe that never attacks a Sheep after the Woodſeer appears: Now this Woodſeer looks like Spittle, and in the Month of *June*, in ſome Years more than others, may be ſeen on the Graſs, *&c.* and is that which is thought to breed Graſshoppers.

The Virtues of Cinquefoil, for curing SHEEP *and* LAMBS *of ſeveral Diſeaſes.*

What Doctor Quincey *writes of the Virtues of Cinquefoil-Graſs, as it relates to the Cure of Diſeaſes in the human Body.*

HE ſays, at p. 134, in his Diſpenſatory, that *Schroder* runs through moſt chronical Diſtempers in its Commendation, and ſays, that it is aſtringent and vulnerary; that it cures Coughs which ariſe from Catarrhs; that it is uſeful in the Palſey, Gout, Phthiſick, too great Humidity in the Womb, ſpitting Blood, the Jaundice, and Obſtructions of the Liver and Spleen; that it obtunds the Acrimony of aduſt Choler, ſtops Fluxes of the Belly, the Hemorrhoids, and Bleeding of the Noſe; that it is of Service againſt the Stone, Eroſions of the Kidneys, Ruptures, and

Fevers; and that, outwardly, it helps Inflammations of the Eyes, Stench in the Mouth, Looſeneſs of the Teeth, and abſterges malignant Ulcers.

What Salmon *writes of it.*---He ſays, the Roots and Leaves of Cinquefoil-Graſs is temperate and dry, in the third Degree, and is good againſt all Fluxes, ſtops Bleeding in any Part of the Body, ſtrengthens the Lungs, opens Obſtructions of Liver and Spleen, helps Ulcers, fretting Sores, and Shingles; the Juice is good againſt Poiſon, if drunk with Mead; Coughs, Jaundice, Tertian and Quartan Agues, if drunk thirty Days together. You may uſe the Extract to the Intention aforeſaid. Outwardly (ſays he) the Juice dropt into the Eyes, cools their Inflammations, heals ſore Mouths, faſtens looſe Teeth, cleanſeth foul, and malignant Ulcers.---And now having illuſtrated the Virtues of Cinquefoil-Graſs, and its Roots, as they relate to the human Body, I proceed to ſhew how it affects the Bodies of Sheep and Lambs: And, firſt, of that contagious Diſeaſe, called the Pox in Sheep.

Of the Pox in Sheep, *called the Hog-Pox.*

Of the Cure of the Pox in Sheep, by Cinquefoil-Graſs; by this Author.

This Diſeaſe, by many Farmers, is called the Hog-Pox in Sheep, proceeding from Foulneſs of Blood, and, as ſome think, is ſomewhat of the Nature of the Small-Pox in the human Body, for it comes out in Pimples and Blotches; firſt, generally, under the Jaws, or about the Neck of a Sheep: My next Neighbour had one that came out in Blotches from its Horn to its Mouth. To cure it, he made uſe of Tar. But my Receipt is, to beat Cinquefoil, or five-leaved Graſs; and when the Juice is got out of it, boil it up with Hog's-Lard, and anoint the infected Places with this Salve, twice a Day, for four or five Days ſucceſſively; parting the Wool each Time, for the better Application of it, and it cures. But for my Reader's further Information, I will here give him what ſeveral Authors write for curing this Pox in Sheep.

Adam Speed's *Receipt to cure the Pox in Sheep.*---This is known (ſays he) by coming out in ſmall Pimples, all over, like the Purples; and when it firſt appears, ſeparate thoſe that are afflicted with it, from the reſt of the Flock,

to

to prevent Infection; change the Paſture, and the Wool being clipp'd away, anoint them with the Juice of Garlick, well incorporated with Tar-Water, or the thinneſt Tar.

James Lambert's *Receipt to cure the Pox in Sheep.*---THIS Author, pretending to mend *Adam Speed*'s Receipt, writes thus of it. This appears (ſays he) by Pimples breaking out all over like Purples, which Diſeaſe is infectious, and therefore a Separation, upon theſe appearing, ought to be made between the Sound and Infected: To remedy this, change the Sheep's Paſture, and mix the Juice of Garlick with Tar-Water, or very thin Tar and Urine, and anoint the Pimples; purge the Sheep with Laurel-Berries, and Roots of Holly boiled.

What J---- B-----, *Gentleman, ſays of the Pox in Sheep, in his Book, intituled,* The Epitomy of Huſbandry, *at p.* 144.---THIS Diſeaſe (ſays he) appears upon the Skin, in the Likeneſs of red Purples, as broad as a Farthing. This Diſtemper deſtroys many Sheep. To remedy this, the Shepherd is to handle all his Sheep, and to ſurvey and look on every Part of their Bodies, and as many as he finds taken therewith, let him put them into freſh new Graſs, and keep them from their Fellows, and let him often have an Eye over his Flock, and draw them as he has Need; and if it be in Summer-time, that there be no Froſt, then let him waſh them.

Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt to cure the Pox in Sheep.*---THE Pox in Sheep (ſays he) is ſmall red Pimples, like Purples, riſing on the Skin, and they are infectious. The Cure is to take Roſemary, and boil the Leaves in Vinegar, and bathe the Sores therewith, and it will heal them. Change of Paſture is good for this Diſeaſe, and you ſhould ſeparate the Sick from the Sound. Another Author, to amend this Receipt, calls this Diſeaſe the Meaſles, or Pox in a Sheep, and ſays, you muſt boil about three Ounces of the Leaves of Roſemary in a Pint of ſtrong Vinegar, and waſh the Puſtles with it.

Cinquefoil-Graſs, how it cures a giddy Sheep; by this Author.---AN old experienced Shepherd, who had the looking after of a Flock of Sheep, in the Pariſh of *Stuteley*, in the County of *Bucks*, uſed to ſay, that the Knowledge of Cinquefoil-Graſs, was rather more neceſſary to a Shepherd than any other Herb whatſoever, becauſe of the many ſalubrious Virtues it is endowed with, particularly that one for curing a giddy Sheep; for he, as well as others, had ſo

ſtrong

ſtrong an Opinion of its Efficacy in curing a giddy Sheep, that he would wager it never miſſes: And to do it, he uſed to employ the Cinquefoil-Salve before-mentioned, with which he would anoint the Sheep's Temples, Jaws, and indeed all over its Face and Head, twice a Day, for a Fortnight; and it cures, let the Cauſe proceed from any Thing.

How Cinquefoil-Salve cures a Wound by a Dog's hard biting a Sheep; by this Author.----FOR this we make no more to do, than to anoint the wounded Part with the Cinquefoil-Salve, once, or oftener.

How Cinquefoil-Graſs will increaſe Milk in Ewes; by this Author.---THIS is a very common Caſe with me and others, to have Ewes that give ſo little Milk, as is hardly enough to keep their Lambs alive; of which Sort are young Sheep that never had Lambs before, or thoſe, or older ones, that are kept very poor on a ſhort Bite of Graſs, or by being forced to live on Straw, or by diſtemper'd Udders, *&c. &c.* as I have, in my firſt Book, more amply obſerved. When this is a Ewe's Caſe, get Cinquefoil-Graſs, and boil it in Spring-Water, ſweeten it with Loaf-Sugar, and give the Ewes, at ſeveral Times, a Quart a Day of this Liquor, for four Days together, and it will produce a good Quantity of Milk, if it has Meat enough allowed it.

How Cinquefoil-Graſs helps to recover a newly-yean'd Lamb, when it is ſo weak, or ſick, that it can't ſuck the Ewe; by this Author.---THIS is well known to Farmers and Shepherds, by frequent Experience, and was it not for proper Means that are to be made uſe of in ſuch a Caſe, Thouſands of Lambs muſt die. A Caſe, that had I not enlarged on it in my firſt Book, I ſhould have done it here, by ſhewing how Lambs are to be recovered that are yeaned ſick, or are otherwiſe ſick and weak, and cannot ſuck their Ewes; I therefore have nothing more to do here, than to acquaint my Reader of the Virtue of Cinquefoil, or five-leaved Graſs, how it will recover ſick Lambs, and is to be done by boiling a Parcel of this Graſs in Cow's Milk, which, when ſtrained, is to be ſweetned with coarſe Sugar; and if a little at a Time of it is frequently given to a ſick, newly-yeaned Lamb out of a Tea-Spoon, or Sucking-Bottle, luke-warm, it ſeldom or never fails of recovering it. In *January*, 1747-8, my Daughter, to whom I gave ſeveral Sheep for encouraging her Care in my Houſhold Affairs, having a Teg Ewe that brought a Lamb very ſick and weak in this cold Seaſon; as the Ewe was young and fooliſh, ſhe

did not foſter, and look after her Lamb ſo well as an older, tender Sheep would; the Girl kept the Lamb in my Chimney Corner, for ſome Time, and fed it with ſweetned Cow's Milk by a Tea-Spoon at firſt, and then out of a Pewter Sucking-Bottle, till the Lamb was able to ſuck the Ewe: At laſt, the Ewe and the Lamb took to each other ſo well, that both lived, among others, in my Turnips; but leſt the Lamb ſhould not have quite a Bellyful of Milk from the Ewe, ſhe would now and then go herſelf, and ſometimes ſend the Pewter-Bottle with warm Milk in it to the Field; which, by Uſe, the Lamb, on Sight of the Bearer, would run to meet, and voluntarily, nay greedily, ſuck the Milk out of the Bottle, and proved a ſtout Lamb by it.---But here may ariſe a Query---What ſhall I do to get Cinquefoil-Graſs in Winter, when, perhaps, we ſtand moſt in Need of it?---To this I anſwer, that, as Cinquefoil is, by many, deemed both a natural Graſs and a Weed, it is to be gathered in Meadows as the firſt, and in plowed Lands as the laſt, becauſe in ſtiffiſh, plow'd Grounds, it is apt to grow in the Fallow Seaſon to the ſouring of them, and afterwards among Corn, to the hurting of it; for there is hardly any ſuch Thing as killing it, where Grain is ſown promiſcuouſly on broad Lands; but where my four-wheel, plain, light, Drill-Plow is made uſe of with its Horſebreak, I defy any Weed whatſoever being my Maſter.

Of the great, or general Scab, or Itch, the Running Scab, Canker, or Ringworm, or any Diſtemper that appears on the Skin of a SHEEP *or* LAMB.

An Introduction for the better explaining and ſhewing the true Cauſes of the Scab and Itch Malady.

BEFORE I proceed to write my Receipts for this dangerous, and ſometimes fatal Malady, I ſhall introduce them, by giving ſome Account how this is bred in Sheep, that my Readers may thereby have the better Notion of it, and know the better how to prevent it.---Firſt, therefore, I have to ſay, that Sheep are more ſubject to breed the Scab in the Spring and Summer Seaſons, than at any other Time of

of the Year, becauſe then they are the moſt thriving, the Weather hotteſt, and the Blood apt to be in the greateſt Ferment. Secondly, this Malady is oftentimes occaſioned by a Flock of Sheep being drove by a heedleſs, ignorant Boy, or Man; for it has been too often experienced, that Flocks of Sheep have ſuffer'd much by their ill Conduct, particularly by the Scab, which, at firſt, proceeds from exceſſive Heat of Blood, and Surfeiting, by either hard driving and hurrying them out of their natural Walk: Or, Thirdly, by their being drove through narrow Lanes, that confines them in too cloſe a Company, or by penning them too cloſe: Or, Fourthly, by Contagion, according to the old Proverb,---One ſcabby Sheep ſpoils a whole Flock.---For one of theſe may cauſe the Death of an Hundred, as the Scab is of ſo catching a Nature, that if the Cure is neglected, it will infect the reſt of the Sheep. And although this grievous Malady is eaſily cured at firſt, yet I have known ſome let it run till many other Sheep have been damaged and killed by it. And now for introducing my Receipts the better, I ſhall recite, in the firſt Place, thoſe wrote by ancient Authors, as follows, *viz.*

Adam Speed's *Receipt for the great and general Scab, or Itch of Sheep.*---THIS (ſays he) is a grievous, offenſive Diſorder, or Sorrance, not uncommon amongſt Sheep, eſpecially thoſe that are much expoſed in the Fields, or other Places, to rainy Weather, or great Miſts or Fogs, overdriven much, in wet, dirty Ways, or the like; theſe Things, I ſay, will afflict them with the nauſeous Sorrance, making them break forth into Scabs, which, upon View, you may know if it be general, or only in particular Places, by a filthy, white Scurf ſticking on their Skins; when you perceive this, take off the Wool as cloſe as can be, mix Tar, Gooſe-Greaſe, and the Juice of Rue; make them into an Ointment, over a gentle Fire, and anoint them with it warm; then clap ſome light Fleeces of Wool, or a few Shreds of Flocks over it, and the Scab will dry up and peel off; you may, if it be very great, let Blood in the Tail and Ears, and give them the Juice of Carduus in a Glaſs of White-Wine, to drink, and then, a while after, ſmoak them with Brimſtone, which will put them into a Kind of Flux, that will carry off the Humour; and thus the Cauſe removed, the Effects will ceaſe.

Adam Speed's *ſecond Receipt for the running Scab.*---THIS (ſays he) is occaſioned by Surfeits, or too much Groſsneſs

of

of Humour, bad Blood, and the like. To remedy this, bleed under the Tongue and Tail, boil a good Handful of Baum, and an Ounce and an Half of Turmerick, finely powder'd, in three Pints of new Milk, and give a Pint at a Time warm; then waſh them with Water, wherein Elder and Burdock Roots have been boiled, not giving them any Meat for twelve Hours.

Adam Speed's *third Receipt for the Scab, or Itch, of Sheep.*---TAKE (ſays he) Soot, the Stalks of Tobacco, and Flour of Brimſtone; boil them with freſh Chamberlye, and waſh the grieved Part.

James Lambert's *Receipt for the Ringworm in Sheep.*---IF this (ſays he) appears either by the Ears, by the Eyes, or Pole of the Neck, make an Ointment of Sallad Oil, Salt and Allum, over a gentle Fire, and anoint the grieved Part with it well, and then cover it with a Plaiſter of Tar and Flour of Brimſtone; and by ſo doing it two or three Times over, the Cure will be effected.

Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt for the general Scab, or Itch, in Sheep.*---THIS general Scab, or Itch (ſays he) in Sheep, is, of all Diſeaſes, the moſt common among them, proceeding from rainy, and wet Weather, which falling upon their Skins, if they happen to be chafed, or heated afterwards, they preſently break forth into Scabs, which you ſhall know by a white, filthy Scurf ſticking upon their Skins: And the moſt uſual Medicine for the ſame, which all Shepherds uſe, is, to anoint the Place with Tar and Greaſe, mix'd together: But if, upon the firſt Appearance of the Itch, you ſteep Penny-Royal in Water, and waſh the Skin therewith, it will preſerve them from running into the Scab.

A--- B---, *Gentleman, his Receipts to cure the Itch, or Scab, in Sheep.*---ANOINT with Gooſe-Greaſe and Tar, mix'd together, with the tender Tops of Broom in *May*; ſtamp and boil them with Gooſe-Greaſe, put Tar to them with a like Proportion; then make two Shends on both Sides his Back-Bone, from his Head to his Tail, and anoint with the aforeſaid Greaſe, and you ſhall need no more Anointing.---There is (ſays he) a Scabbineſs alſo amongſt Lambs, being Half a Year old, towards Winter, or the next Fall of the Leaf. The Shepherds ſay the Cauſe is, for that the Rams, at that Time, are ſcabby that get them, and that then all the Lambs ſhall be ſcabby at the next Fall. To heal this Diſtemper, you muſt greaſe them with Tar, mix'd with freſh Greaſe, or Neat's-Foot Oil, or Gooſe-Greaſe.---

There is another Scabbineſs which happens ſometimes to the Muzzles of the Sheep, and that proceeds from the Place where there is great Plenty of Furz or Gors; they by eating of the Tops or Flowers thereof, do prick their Lips and Muzzles, from whence come Scabs; which you muſt heal by anointing them with freſh Butter.---There is another Scab, which they have, which comes through the Negligence of the Shepherds, when they ſuffer them to feed on Graſs covered with Dew. To remedy this, take Salt and Hyſſop, a little Quantity, beaten together, and therewith fret and chafe the Palate of the Mouth, the Tongue, and all over the Muzzle, and they'll be cured.

A--- B----*'s Broom Salve to cure Sheep of the Scab.*---THIS is a Medicine (ſays he) to ſalve poor Mens Sheep, that think Tar too coſtly (the Worth of which, if ſome of the richer Sort knew, they would make uſe of it.)---Let the Shepherd take a Sheer full of Broom, Crops, Leaves, Bloſſoms and all, chop them very ſmall, and then boil them in a Pan of twenty Gallons, with running Water, till it begin to grow thick like a Jelly; then let him take two Pounds of Sheep-Suet melted, and a Pottle of old Piſs, and as much Brine made with Salt; let him put all into the ſaid Pan, and ſtir it about, and then ſtrain it through an old Cloth, and put it into what Veſſel he will; and if his Sheep be not clipped, then let him make it lukewarm, and then waſh them therewith with a Spunge, or a Piece of old Mantle, or of a Folding of ſuch ſoft Cloth or Wool for not ſpending too much of his Salve; and, at all Times of the Year, he may uſe it as he ſhall have Occaſion. To uſe this Broom Salve, or prepared Tar, to a Sheep before it is ſhorn, part the Wool, to diſcover the Inflammation of the Skin, and then anoint the Place, and half an Inch about it; then cloſe the Wool, and it will prove a ſpeedy Cure. The ſame Salve will alſo deſtroy Sheep-Lice, or Ticks, and the Wool not be the worſe for Sale. Again (ſays he) thoſe Sheep that are thus waſhed or anointed, will not be ſcabby again if they be well fed; for the Scab proceeds chiefly from poor Diet; therefore when the Remedies are applied, give the Sheep freſh good Paſture; for good Food not only help to cure, but prevents the Evil.

A--- B----*'s prepared Tar Receipt, or to meddle Tar for applying it as an outward Application to cure the Scab.*---To make a Preparation of Tar the more efficacious in curing ſcabby Sheep, mix it with the Greaſe of Poultry, or that

from

from Geeſe, or with Hog's-Lard, or with Butter that has been made up without Salt; double the Quantity of Tar to the Greaſe; or the Tar may be firſt melted to Oil, for thus the Tar will mix the better, and be more powerful in curing the Scab, for that Tar of itſelf is too ſharp, and will not heal ſo well as if thus mixed. To which I add

The Compleat Vermin-Killer's *Receipt to cure the Scab in Sheep.*---In this Book there is a Receipt to cure the Scab, that ſays, Take a Quarter of a Pint of the Juice of Hyſſop, the like Quantity of Camomile, a Quart of Water, wherein Tobacco has been ſteeped, two Ounces of Brimſtone Flour, Fern Roots a Handful, and a Quart of Urine, adding two Handfuls of Salt; boil theſe together, and with the liquid Part waſh the grieved Place, giving them Salt and Water, at the ſame Time, to drink, keeping them, as much as may be, from green Meats. This likewiſe cures the Itch and other Diſtempers, and by adding ſix Ounces of Tar, it kills Maggots, Lice, and Ticks. And now follow

This Author's Receipts for curing the Itch, or Scab, in SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

The Receipt practiſed by an old Vale Shepherd for curing ſcabby Sheep.

THIS Shepherd look'd after a large Flock of Sheep in the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, and was Servant in a Farm, that conſiſted of about three hundred Acres of excellent Land, known by the Name of *Chedington* Farm, that I aſſiſted a Gentleman in buying, and which I had the Superintendency of till he was well fix'd in it himſelf. This Shepherd, who was reputed one of the moſt knowing Sor of his Fraternity, uſed to cure his ſcabby Sheep, by boiling Tobacco Stalks in Piſs, or Brine, with a Bit of Soap in it; when cold, he put into the ſtrained Liquor a little Quantity of Spirits, or Oil of Turpentine; and once in ten Days he would rub ſome of it on the infected, ſcabby Places of the Skin, and no oftener, leſt he ſhould drive in the Humour too faſt, and, perhaps, kill the Sheep.

A ſecond Receipt to cure a ſcabby Sheep; by this Author.---If a Sheep is much infected, it will nearly take up two Ounces of the following Mixture, to be made thus:---Mix one Ounce of Oil of Turpentine, with one Ounce of Strong

Beer, then part the Wool here and there, and pour a little of this Liquor on the ſcabby Place, which rub in, and ſo proceed till you have anointed all, or moſt of the tainted Parts; and you need not do it a ſecond Time, for this ſeldom fails of a thorough Cure; however, if you don't approve of this, make uſe of the next, which is,

A third Receipt.---TAKE human Urine, or the Stale of a Cow, and boil in it the Stalks of Tobacco, ſome Soap, and ſome Salt; but not in ſo thick a Conſiſtence as to make it a Salve, for it muſt be a Liquid; theſe, ſo boiled, muſt be ſtrained off and kept for Uſe, which is to be applied by rubbing this Liquor in, upon the ſcabby Part, now and then, till cured: But if you like a more potent Medicine, than any of theſe, the following one is of that Sort.

A fourth Receipt,---Is, when the aforeſaid Tobacco Liquor is ſtrained off, and cold, then beat one Dram of Sublimate very fine, and put it into two Quarts of the Liquid, which being ſtirred into it, will diſſolve in Time. Some of this being rubb'd on the ſcabby Part, will kill the Infection; but take Care your Sublimate is beat into a very fine Powder; for if a little Bit of it lies on the Skin, it will eat a Hole in it, and do Miſchief: With this mercurial, Tobacco Liquor, you may waſh the ſcabby Places, more than once, till they are well. But the ſafeſt Way is to give the ſcabby Sheep a Lick, two Mornings together, of Flour of Brimſtone, mix'd with Butter or Treacle, before you anoint.

The Acton *Receipt to cure a ſcabby Sheep; by this Author.* ---ABOUT this Part of *Middleſex*, the following Receipt is put in Practice by ſome, which is, to boil a Pennyworth of Sublimate Mercury in Powder, with two Pounds of Tobacco Stalks, and Half a Pound of common Allum, in a Gallon and Half of Urine, about a Quarter of an Hour, or till the Ingredients are well incorporated; then, when the Liquor is cold, open the Flakes of Wool where the Skin is infected, and pour in ſome of the Water: Once or twice Dreſſing commonly cures, but they are apt to break out again in ſome other Places, after the former are well; therefore ſhould be frequently inſpected, and if Need be, dreſſed as before.---Yet ſome Farmers uſe as much green Broom as Tobacco, and think it a good Medicine without the Mercury, becauſe the Mercury is apt to make the Wool come off.

A Receipt to cure a Lamb's ſcabby Mouth; by this Author.— LAMBS, as I ſaid, are apt, as well as Sheep, to have ſcabby Mouths,

Mouths, by cropping Furz, Gors, *&c.*---In this Caſe, the Application of only Cream now and then, will make the Scabs peel off and cure them; or if a little Cream is put into a Saucepan, with a Piece of Butter, and ſome Vinegar, and the Chaps are well rubbed with it a few Times, it will cure them. To which I add, that Sheep, like Cows, are very ſubject to ſuffer, by being driven out of their natural Pace, or courſed by a Dog, or the like; or if they are ſuffered to lie down whilſt hot, and this be done often, they will break out with the Scab, or Mange, when about *Midſummer* and *Michaelmas*, you put them into freſh Paſture; if they are cloſe-folded, it will do the ſame; if in hot Weather they be often removed from Place to Place, it will hinder them from thriving, and make them ſcabby. In the Morning betimes, drive your Sheep into Fallow Fields or Downs, where Graſs is ſcarce, and take Notice of the Situation of the Field, then walk your Sheep gently on the drieſt and higheſt Parts; if there be Corn Fields, let them feed about two or three Hours by the Hedges: About Eleven o'Clock, turn them from the Edges of the Corn Fields, or Paſturage, into the loweſt, Clay Grounds, or Valleys, you have, and let them lie as eaſy and as ſcattering as you can; uſe them at all Times tenderly, and leſs Food will ſerve: Obſerve this Method from *May* till *Auguſt*, if the Weather continue warm, and it will prevent Scab and Mange, when they come into freſh Paſture.

Old Palmer's *Method of curing a ſcabby Sheep.*—THIS old *Palmer*, now eighty Years old, is a Shepherd at this Time, 1748, and has been ſo about fifty Years, to a Yeoman, my near Neighbour, who occupies his own Farm, of about one hundred and fifty Pounds a Year; and is a careful, judicious Servant, as being one, that ſeldom ſuffers a Sheep to be hunted by his Dog, unleſs there be a mere Neceſſity for it; nor will he, willingly, drive them out of their natural Walk, therefore he has ſeldom any of his Folding Sheep troubled with the Scab; but when any has it begun on them, he makes no more to do, than to have Recourſe to his Gooſe-Greaſe Pot for a Cure, which is what he always keeps in a Readineſs by him; and when he has parted the Wool, and found the ſcabby Places, he rubs this Greaſe on them; and by doing it once, or more, it never fails of curing them.

A Traveller's Receipt to cure the ſcabby Mouth of a Sheep, or Lamb.---HE mixes the Juice of Houſe-Leek with Cream,

and anoints till it is well; or for a more ready Remedy, he rubs in any freſh Greaſe upon the ſcabby Part; and, by repeating it, it will make a Cure of a dangerous Malady, that, in Time, (if neglected) will hinder the Beaſt from feeding, and kill it.

The Nature and Miſchief of SHEEP-TICKS, *or* SHEEP-LICE.

A Deſcription of the Sheep-Louſe, and the Damage they do to Sheep and Lambs.

A SHEEP-TICK, or Louſe, is a large Inſect, of a dark, browniſh Colour, with a Body about the Bigneſs of a ſmall Pea, made flattiſh bottled; it has Legs that jet out ſomewhat ſide-ways, like thoſe of Spiders: And it is certain that few, or no Sheep, are entirely free from being peſtered with theſe Skin Vermin, but thoſe that are the moſt free of them, are fat Sheep, becauſe Poverty is the chiefeſt Occaſion of their Breed and Increaſe; inſomuch, that where Ticks or Lice are in Abundance, they are ſometimes the chief Means of the Death of a Sheep; for as theſe Lice lie, and are ſhelter'd in the warmeſt Manner, from Froſts and Rains, they breed more or leſs, all the Year, and lie ſucking the Blood of the Creature, even to the making little Holes in its ſpungy Skin, till by this, and poor Living, they kill many Sheep and Lambs: Others that endure the Miſery of their Gnawings, for ſome Time, and being exceeding poor, when they come, at once, into a plentiful Feeding, are apt to tip off, by the ſudden Breeding of much Blood, that overflows, and overcomes their weak Nature. Graſs-Lambs, and young Sheep, fall moſtly under this Misfortune; wherefore, a wiſe Shepherd, by making a due Obſervation and Inſpection among his Flock, may eaſily perceive whether a Sheep or Lamb ſuffers much by Ticks or Lice, and this by ſeeing them ſcrub againſt Trees and Poſts, or by their biting themſelves, and gnawing off their Wool.

Adam Speed's *Receipt to kill Sheep-Ticks, or Lice.*—TAKE (ſays he) a Handful of Burdock Roots, as much of Briony, boil them in Chamberlye, and waſh the Sheep over with it, or at leaſt, the Place afflicted with theſe Inſects; and when that is dried, anoint it with Tar-Water, and it will not only

only kill thoſe that are there at preſent, but prevent the Putrefaction that breeds them: He alſo ſays, mix Goose-greaſe, Brimſtone, and Tar, over a gentle Fire, and anoint.

James Lambert's *Receipt to kill Sheep-Lice*.----THIS Author ſhortens the laſt Receipt, and ſays, Take Tar-Water, the Juice of Burdock, and Briony Root, and bathe or anoint the Place, and they will be effectually deſtroyed.

J— B—, *Gentleman, his Receipt to cure a louſy Sheep, or Lamb*.-----TAKE, ſays he, Quickſilver killed in Oil-Olive, or Spittle, and therewith anoint them. A queer Remedy, indeed! A Remedy that will indeed kill Lice, but what Damage will it do otherways? Had he adviſed the Uſe of Doctor *Dover*'s ſublimated Quickſilver Waſh, I would hold with him, which in his Book, intituled, *The Phyſician's Legacy*, at *Page* 65, for the Itch in the human Body, is this: Diſſolve, ſays he, a Dram of Sublimate, and Half an Ounce of Cream of Tartar, in a Quart of Spring Water. This, if applied by a Feather, will be efficacious.

A Receipt to kill Sheep-Lice, or Ticks, which annoy and ſpoil the Skins of Sheep, and keep them low in Fleſh.---TAKE the Root of the common Maple-Tree, cut it in Chips, or grind it, and make a Decoction of it in common Water, the Quantity about an Ounce to a Pint of Water, which muſt be drawn clear from the Root, as ſoon as it is cold. This Water being applied to the Skin of a Sheep, where the Ticks happen to prevail moſt, is a certain Deſtroyer of them. We need not (ſays this little Book) tell a Shepherd of Judgment, that the Wool muſt be firſt gently opened with the Fingers before the Liquor is applied: Some uſe a Linen Cloth that has been well ſoaked in it; others apply this with a Spunge to a Sheep, immediately after they are ſhorn, to prevent the Ticks for the future, and even deſtroy the Eggs which may remain upon the Body of the Sheep.----By a Society of Country Gentlemen, *&c.*

ANOTHER Author adviſes a Mixture of Tar, Flour of Brimſtone, *&c.* to anoint with, and deſtroy Ticks and Lice in Sheep; but to all theſe, I ſhall give an Anſwer, as follows, *viz.*

This Author's Receipt for curing SHEEP *and* LAMBS *of Ticks, or Lice.*

A cheap and certain Way to deſtroy all Ticks and Lice upon the Bodies of Sheep or Lambs: By this Author.

IT appears ſomewhat ſtrange to me, that a large Book, tranſlated from the *French*, above an hundred Years ago, intituled, *La Maiſon Ruſtique*, ſhould be ſo much a Guide to *Engliſh* Authors, that they are forced, for Want of finding out better Ways, to tranſcribe inſignificant Receipts, even, I believe, in half a dozen Books, from that: A Book that in the general has been cenſured for an inſipid Work; I mean, that the major Part of it contains a great deal to little Purpoſe.----As to the Roots of Burdock, Briony, or that of the Maple-Tree, I am ſurprized to find them preſcribed for killing thoſe hardy, large, ſtrong-bodied Vermin, when an Infuſion of a much potenter Vegetable, even Tobacco Stalks, has failed, after fair Trials: Nor can I learn, by Diſpenſatory Books, that the Roots are Lice-killers; and as to the Tar-Ointment among Wool, though it may kill Sheep-Lice, and heal the Wounds they have made, yet it cannot be ſo proper a Remedy as an efficacious liquid one, becauſe the Ointment is of too thick a Body, for being diſperſed enough, through the cloſe-lying Wool, to come at all the Lice. The Quickſilver Receipt, indeed, muſt be a thorough Cure, for deſtroying all Ticks, or Lice, it can come at; but the coſtly and dangerous Effects that it is incident to, I ſhould think, is enough to deter any one from making uſe of it; wherefore I ſhall here give my Receipt that has been often tried, and never failed killing all the Ticks, or Sheep-Lice, that it could come at. Make a Brine, with common Salt, full ſtrong enough to bear an Egg; then part the Wool in ſeveral Places, for diſcovering where the Lice lie, and apply ſome of this briny Liquor to them; this do, two or three ſeveral Times, and it will aſſuredly kill the Lice, ſpoil their Eggs, heal the wounded Holes, and prevent the like Damage happening to the Sheep for a long Time. It is this ſame ſalt Liquor that I, likewiſe, make uſe of, to deſtroy thoſe Lice, that ſometimes breed on the Bodies of my ſuckling Calves, and, which, by repeating its Uſe, never fails of clearing the Creature of theſe its deſtroying Enemies; for if they are ſuffered to ſwarm, there

there is no ſuch Thing as fatting the Calf. But for killing Ticks or Sheep-Lice, I ſhall give a ſtronger and better Medicine when I write of killing Maggots.

The good Method that ſome prudent Farmers take to kill Ticks, or Lice, and to prevent their ſudden breeding again, on the Bodies of Sheep and Lambs.---IT is true, that there are ſeveral Remedies, as I have before preſcribed, to deſtroy Ticks or Lice, on the Bodies of Sheep, or Lambs. But notwithſtanding theſe Receipts, there generally will remain ſome of theſe Vermin among the Wool of theſe Beaſts, even till Sheering Time, and the more, the longer the Wool is ſuffered to remain on the Sheep or Lambs Backs; becauſe, if the Weather is ſultry hot, the Sheep and Lambs will ſweat, and breed them the more; wherefore a prudent Farmer will, for this Reaſon, have his Sheep ſhorn betimes, to leſſen, in ſome Meaſure, the Increaſe of theſe Lice; and to clear their Bodies, the more effectually, of theſe their Skin Enemies, and of the Scurf and Filthineſs that breeds them, let them follow the Example of the *Ivinghoe* Vale Farmers, and that of mine; as to that of the firſt, theſe Farmers, as ſoon as they have ſhorn their Sheep and Lambs, take them down to the River, and there have them ſcrubbed and waſhed, to clear their Bodies of all the Naſtineſs that remains on their Skins, and for totally deſtroying and clearing them of all their Lice, and for the longer keeping off their Breeding for the Time to come; but as to my own Practice, my Caſe is a little different from that of the *Ivinghoe* Farmers, becauſe theſe live juſt by a River, and can drive their Sheep to it, with little Trouble and Damage; but, as I live near three Miles from a River, I ſupply the Trouble of driving mine to it, by having a Tub of Water, mixed with ſome Salt, with which I rub my Sheep and Lambs, which anſwers the End more effectually, than doing it with all freſh Water: But of this more by and by, when I write of ſheering Sheep.

Of Maggots that breed on the Bodies of SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

Of the Breed of Maggots, and of the Miſchief they do to Sheep and Lambs.

THESE Sort of vermicular Vermin are the Death of many Sheep and Lambs, for as both theſe are very ſubject to breed Maggots, by the blowing of ſeveral Sorts of

Flies, and by the Heat of their greaſy Wools, in hot Weather, if they are not carefully looked after, by a judicious Shepherd, they may be ſoon deſtroyed by theſe Maggots. I loſt, I think, three Sheep one Year, by the Careleſsneſs of too young a Shepherd, who ſuffered them to be over-run with Maggots, till they were paſt Recovery; for theſe Inſects are ſo prone to multiply, that from their firſt Increaſe they will kill a Sheep in three Days Time, by gnawing Holes in its Skin from Head to Tail, and ſometimes by eating into the Belly of the Sheep, by its Fundament; a grievous Malady indeed, that ought to be guarded againſt with the utmoſt Vigilance, becauſe Part, or moſt of a Flock, may, if neglected, be ſoon deſtroyed by Maggots. And although this great Evil is but juſt touched on by ancient Authors, and ſeveral Receipts publiſhed by them, chiefly of Ointments, for this Purpoſe, yet, I ſhall not ſo paſs over the treating on theſe deſtructive Vermin, but aſſure my Reader, that Sheep and Lambs infected by them, will infect others, by lying cloſe in a Fold, or elſewhere, to one another. Now the Sheep and Lambs that are moſt liable to the Breed of Maggots, are thoſe that carry the moſt and cloſeſt Wool on their Backs; and the more they are frequently heated by driving them out of their natural Walk, the ſooner they come under this Misfortune, particularly, when they are harraſſed by the Fright of Dogs, and thereby cauſed to pant and ſweat much; but more of this preſently, for now I ſhall begin with tranſcribing two Receipts from ancient Authors.

Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt for killing Maggots in Sheep.*- THIS Author, without any Preamble, ſays, if your Sheep is troubled with Maggots, you ſhall take Gooſe-greaſe, Tar, and Brimſtone, and mix them together on the Fire, and then anoint the Place therewith, and it will kill the Maggots; and, I believe ſo too, where it can come at them; but here is no Direction to part or cut away the Wool, for coming at the Maggots, nor whether the Mixture is to be applied more than once. In ſhort, as it is of a thick Conſiſtence, and of a burning Nature, it is a very improper Medicine, for it muſt ſtick to, and about, the Wool, if it is not clipt away, and then ſuch Wool is ſpoiled. Nor can ſuch an Ointment well come at the minute Places, where the Eggs of theſe Maggots lie; wherefore a liquid Remedy, that is an efficacious one, muſt be beſt.

J--- B---, *Gentleman, his Receipt, in his Book, entituled,* The Epitome of the Art of Huſbandry, *to kill Maggots in Sheep.*

Sheep.----TAKE, ſays he, Oil of Olive, and the Powder of Brimſtone, and ſo anoint therewith. Or, the Powder of Brimſtone and Tar, mixed together, and warmed over a Fire.

This Author's Receipts to kill Maggots, that are on the Bodies of SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

This Author's firſt Receipt to kill Maggots on the Bodies of Sheep or Lambs.

BUT beſides the Reaſons I have before aſſigned for the Breed of the Maggots on the Bodies of Sheep and Lambs, I have here to add, that this great Evil happens to theſe Creatures by ſome other Means; as, when a careleſs, indolent Shepherd ſuffers his Sheep, or Lambs, eſpecially thoſe that are looſe-dung'd, to be daubed behind, till the Dung mats, and breeds Maggots; this is oftentimes the Cauſe of breeding theſe Vermin in hot Weather, and it is from this Part, that they ſoon eat into the Sheep's Fundament, where they generally make quick Deſtruction, if a Remedy is not timely applied. Maggots, likewiſe, are bred on a Sheep's, or Lamb's Head, chiefly at the Bottom of their Horns, either, by a Humour that affects thoſe Parts, or, without it, by means of the large Blue-blow Fly, the Beetle, or the Horſe-Bee, and Fly; theſe, or ſome of them, generally lay their Eggs on the Sheep or Lamb's Heads, or on its Neck, Back, or Rump; and here breed Maggots, to the great Torment of the Beaſt: A Torment of the greateſt Sort, becauſe by it, the Creature is eaten alive. Now, to free a Sheep, or Lamb, of theſe Maggots, and cure the Wounds they make, by my firſt Receipt, Take the Leaves of Elder, and bruiſe them, then ſqueeze out their Juice; this being ready, clip away the Wool, about the Part where the Maggots harbour, and rub this Juice in upon it; or, take the Leaves of the Elder, and rub them ſoundly on the Place; this done, take either Coal, or ſifted Wood-Aſhes, and likewiſe rub them on the Part: This is what I have practiſed for Haſte Sake, when I had not a better Remedy at Command; but this is an inſipid one, in Compariſon of theſe that follow, *viz.*

This Author's ſecond Receipt, for the ſame Purpoſe.----- THIS my ſecond Receipt is more efficacious than my firſt;

and that is, to make uſe of Train-Oil, or Fiſh-Oil; for this is an Oil that is made from the Whale, or Grampus, or Shark, or the Sea-Hog Fiſh, called the Porpoiſe, or from others of the ſmaller Sort; and as it is the moſt ſtinking Oil, of all others, it is ſold at the cheapeſt Rate, by the Name of Train-Oil. If Maggots have eaten into the Head, Fundament, or into any other Part of a Sheep, or Lamb's Body, if it can come at them, it will either kill them, where they are, or oblige them to come forth and be killed: This Oil, likewiſe, being of a healing Nature, will alſo cure the Wounds the Maggots have made, and prevent the Fly (while its Virtue laſts) from blowing the Sheep, and laying its Eggs for breeding more Maggots. This Oil I have often uſed to a good Purpoſe, but leſt Train-Oil, alone, be not thought ſtrong enough, to kill the largeſt Maggots, I ſhall here preſent my Readers with a ſtronger Medicine.

This Author's third Receipt.------My third Receipt is a ſtronger Sort, than my firſt and ſecond, becauſe, with Train Oil we mix one ſixth Part of Oil of Turpentine, which, if applied to the Maggots, after the Wool is cut off, will infallibly kill them, and heal the Holes the Maggots have gnawed into. But ſome may think the following Receipt ſtronger, and therefore they may take their Choice. This Mixture is, alſo, a proper one, to put into the Bottom of a Horn, where the Maggots cannot be come at otherwiſe, and it will kill them and heal the Part.

This Author's fourth Receipt.----My fourth Receipt is to ſteep Tobacco Stalks, which is the cheapeſt, or cut Tobacco, in common Water, till it is impregnated with their Quinteſſence; this done, ſtrain off the Water, and mix one ſixth Part of Oil of Turpentine with it, and with a Feather dipt in this Liquid, beſmear the Part where the Maggots lie, and if it touch them it will ſurely kill them, as may be prov'd by holding a little of this Tobacco Oil in a Cup, and putting a Maggot to it; but take ſpecial Care you do not put too much Oil of Turpentine to the Part; if you do, it will make the Sheep ſound; therefore, I have directed the Mixture accordingly, for this ſtrong ſpirituous Oil has, I preſume, more Power to enter the Skin of a Sheep, than it has the Skins of moſt other Beaſts. If the Body of a mangy Horſe is rubbed all over with Oil of Turpentine, in order to cure him, it will either kill or cure him, as I ſhall ſhew, by a particular Caſe of it, if I write twelve monthly Books more of Huſbandry, to be intituled, *New Diſcoveries of Improvements*

ments in Huſbandry, &c. This is a good Receipt, becauſe the liquid Ingredients will penetrate through the bottom Wool, and into the Maggots Holes, and may be uſed where the Wool is clipt off, and where it is not clipt of.

This Author's fifth Receipt.-----By this Receipt there is no Occaſion for clipping away, and waſting the Wool, to come at the Maggots, to deſtroy them and their Eggs, and prevent their breeding again in Haſte, as their generally is when Oils are made uſe of, or when an Ointment is to be applied; for this Receipt directs the Uſe of a moſt cleanly Medicine, which is dead Lime only. In order for it, you muſt firſt ſearch to find where the Maggots lie, on the Skin of the Beaſt; for theſe, like the black Caterpillars among Turnip-Crops, have at firſt the Poſſeſſion of a ſmall Part; when they are diſcovered, part the Wool in a Line, or Row, on the Outſide of, and near the Maggots; this do on both Sides of them, then ſtrew ſome powdered dead Lime, all along the Partition, ſo as that the Powder may lie on the Skin; this done, put ſome more of the ſame powdered Lime on the Maggots, and it will kill them; and if any eſcape the Lime thus put on, they may crawl away to the Line of Lime, and ſo be killed by it: The ſame, if dead powdered Lime is applied to Maggots, on any other Part of the Sheep or Lamb's Skin, it will have the like killing Effect, and is accounted by ſome, to be the very beſt Way, of killing Maggots, of all others, becauſe in uſing it you need not clip away any Wool, for that this cleanly Remedy will neither daub, burn, nor otherwiſe damage it, as the Lime is almoſt totally diveſted of its fiery Quality. For this Purpoſe (I cannot ſay I do, tho' I am ſeldom without quick Lime by me, for one Uſe or other) my Brother Farmer, and next Neighbour, always keeps a Pot of dead powdered Lime by him, that he may have it in a continual Readineſs upon this Occaſion; for as he and I keep a folding Flock of Sheep, the Breed of Maggots, more or leſs, is almoſt unavoidable; but as this is a quick Remedy, it is one of the beſt Sort, for if theſe Inſects get a-head, they ſoon take the Beaſt off its Stomach, make it become poor, and then if it is cured of the Maggots, it is a Chance if it is not overtaken with the Scab, or a Swarm of Ticks or Lice, the Effect of its Poverty. I knew a great Farmer that had many of his Sheep overtaken with Maggots thro' his Shepherd's Neglect, and cured by only the Application of dead Lime, for which he parted the Wool on each Side the Sheep's Backs, and the ſame in other Parts of their Bo-

dies, and where he found Maggots he ſqueezed them to Death, then he ſtrewed dead Lime over the Place, and killed all that remained alive; thus he ſaved a Flock from being deſtroyed by Maggots, that was of a conſiderable Value, for they were afterwards ſold for eighteen Pounds a Score, before they were fatted on Turnips. And although Tobacco-water alone will not kill Lice, or Ticks, in Sheep, both this dead Lime Powder, or the Tobacco Water mixed with a little Turpentine, will certainly do it.

This Author's ſixth Receipt to prevent the Damage of the Blow-Fly's breeding Maggots in Sheep.----As Prevention is better than Remedy, it is practiſed, by ſome *Buckinghamſhire* Shepherds, to ſtrew ſome Powder of Brimſtone over the Back of the Sheep, when they perceive the great Blow-Fly begin to be buſy, for in this Part of the Sheep's Body they ſettle, lay their Eggs, and breed Maggots, with the leaſt Diſturbance from the Beaſt, becauſe it cannot come at it with its Horns, nor its Feet, to moleſt them. Now to prevent this Damage they part the Wool, and only ſcatter the Powder, but others do better that rub it in.

This Author's ſeventh Receipt to kill Maggots, or Sheep-Lice, or Ticks, in the Body of a Sheep or Lamb.----I SAY, Lambs, as well as Sheep, for Lambs as well as Sheep, are frequently found to be peſter'd both with Maggots, and Ticks or Lice, eſpecially thoſe that lie on a diſtant Common, as ſome poor Mens do, who have little or no In-ground for them to graze on; but let the Cauſe be what it will, a good Remedy may be prepared, by boiling Tobacco Stalks in Brine, for this will kill both Maggots and Lice: Yet, to my certain Knowledge, ſome Shepherds are for making a ſurer Remedy of this, by adding as much white Mercury, or Sublimate, in Powder, to a Quart of this Liquor, as will lie on a Shilling; thus it is made an infallible Liquor for killing the largeſt Maggots, and the largeſt Lice or Ticks. Some Perſons therefore are for uſing dead Lime, others Train Oil, others a different Remedy from theſe, ſaying, that Lime and Tar is apt to burn the Wool, when Train-Oil will cauſe it to grow, and yet kill the Maggots, and heal the Wound.

To cure the ſore Heads of SHEEP *or* LAMBS.

The wrong Method that ſome take to cure the ſore Heads of their Sheep.

AS I have before obſerved, that the Heads of Sheep oftentimes become ſore, by the Blowing-Fly's laying its Eggs, and breeding Maggots in this Part, where they ſoon eat into the Skin, and cauſe a Soreneſs and Itching, which to allay, the Sheep is forced to ſcratch it, with its Hind-Foot, and thus the poor Beaſt increaſes the Evil, and gives the Blow-Fly an Opportunity to make the Malady ſtill worſe; inſomuch, that if the Sheep is not quickly cured, it muſt be killed by the Maggots, and Flies; for this Purpoſe ſome employ a Mixture of Tar, and Salt Greaſe, and apply it ſcalding hot, to allay the Itching, keep off the Fly, kill the Maggots, and heal the Wound. Others mix Flower of Brimſtone with Tar, and ſalt Greaſe, to the ſame End. But I ſay, that neither of theſe are proper Remedies, becauſe, as theſe Mixtures lie above, and near the Sheep's Eyes, if any of it deſcend into them, it may (as ſome have ignorantly done) blind them.

This Author's Method to cure a Sheep or Lamb's ſore Head.---To do this, take Redding, which is ſold at moſt Country Grocers Shops, being a Sort of Red Earth, that is brought, I ſuppoſe, from about *Briſtol*, where I have ſeen vaſt Quantities of it; take two Parts of this Redding, in Powder, and mix it with one Part of common Soap, and as much Train-Oil, as will make them both into a Salve Conſiſtence; with this anoint the Sheep's or Lamb's ſore Head, lay it on pretty thick, and it will not only kill the Maggots, but, alſo, heal their Wounds, and prevent the like Damage for a long Time after: But then the Sheep's, or Lamb's two hind Legs muſt be fettered with a Liſt, or other String, and that, ſo cloſe, that it cannot employ either of them to ſcratch its Head.

This Author's ſecond Receipt for the ſame Purpoſe.--TAKE ſome Tobacco Stalks, and a Piece of common Soap; theſe boil in Brine, and keep it all the Year in a Readineſs to dreſs the ſore Heads of Sheep or Lambs, or other Soreneſs in any Part of a Sheep or Lamb's Body; for this will kill Maggots, and Sheep-Lice, keep off the Fly, and heal the ſore Part.

This

This Author's third Receipt.----As a Sheep's Head is one Part of its Body, the leaſt furniſhed with Wool, the Fly has a free and eaſy Acceſs to its Skin, for biting or ſtinging it, in the hot Seaſon of the Year, when theſe Inſects are in their greateſt Strength and Vigour, and when the Blood of the Beaſt is in its thinneſt Conſiſtence; nor is ſuch a biting or ſtinging to be wondered at, ſince a ſingle Fly will draw Blood out of the tougher Skin of a Horſe; thus the Head of a Sheep or Lamb becomes bitten, and made ſore, and as the Fly blows the Wound, they lay their Eggs on the ſame, that ſoon breed Maggots, and the Maggots ſoon eat into the Fleſh of the Sheep, and will kill it, if not timely prevented; this we find too true every Year, for ſometimes I have Half a Score Sheep with ſore Heads, at once, in my folding Flock; for we that live in an incloſed, woody Country, are more liable to have our Sheep and Lambs in this Pickle, than thoſe Farmers are, who live in a champaign, open-field, Vale Country, becauſe here the Flies are not bred ſo much, as they are amongſt our Woods and Hedges, in a Chiltern Country; wherefore, when the Head of a Sheep is much hurt and ſore, we are forced to make uſe of a Plaiſter Remedy, that is to ſay, we make a Mixture of Tar and Oil of Turpentine, that we ſpread thinly on Linen, or fine Leather, and ſew its Ends to the Wool, and ſometimes we faſten it by Strings tied about the Horns of the Sheep, the better to keep off the Fly, and the Ingredients from drying too ſoon. But then we take due Care how we apply this Mixture, for if it is laid on ſo thick as to run down the Face of the Sheep, into its Eyes, it may blind it. Now, the Reaſon why this Remedy is ſo much a-propos, for curing the ſore Head of a Sheep, is, becauſe, the Tar and Turpentine are both great Healers of Wounds, and carry in each of them a moſt ſtrong, diſagreeable Smell, to all Manner of Inſects whatſoever; and not only a nauſeous Scent, or Smell, but as the Mixture has a plaiſtick or ſticking Body, it is ſo contrary to the Nature of all Flies, that none will come near it.

This Author's fourth Receipt.----A MOST ready Remedy, for this Purpoſe, is the Coomb, or Greaſe, of a Cart, Waggon, or Coach Wheel, where the Sore is of a little Compaſs; then we take ſome of this, and daub it on the ſore Place, as thinking this, at a Pinch of Need, will be a ſufficient Dreſſing to keep off the Fly, and heal the Wound.

A

A quick Way to cure the ſore Head of a Sheep, or Lamb, cauſed by Maggots, or when the Scab has begun.-----THIS quick Remedy is practiſed by ſome of our neighbouring Shepherds who chew Tobacco, and which they put in Practice, when they find a Sheep's Head is damaged by Maggots, or otherwiſe, or when they find the Scab has begun breeding, on any Part of a Sheep, or Lamb's Body; it is then that they ſpit on the Part, and wherever this Tobacco Spittle lights, it deſtroys the Maggots, keeps off the Fly, and heals the Wound.

My next Neighbour's Shepherd's Method of curing the ſore Heads of Sheep and Lambs.-----THIS is an eaſy and ready Remedy to cure the ſore Heads of Sheep, or Lambs; for when he finds any of his Flock, in this Condition, his conſtant Practice is, only, to mix ſome Tar with Cow-Dung, and when it is ſo mixed, he daubs ſome of it on the wounded Place. This, he ſays, never fails his Expectation, becauſe the Cow-Dung is a great Cooler, of a ſuppling Nature, and corrects the hot Nature of the Tar, ſo well as to render it a valuable Medicine; he alſo adds, that as the Cow-Dung quickly dries, it ſtops the Tar from running into the Eyes of the Sheep.

A Tobacco Water, ſold at Shops, for curing the Scab, and ſore Heads of Sheep.-----As Sheep and Lambs are very much ſubject to ſuffer by this Malady, ſeveral of our Country Shops make and ſell a Tobacco Water, for this Purpoſe, at three Pence a Quart; ſo that Farmers, or Shepherds, upon an emergent Occaſion, when they have none of their own Preparations by them, buy it here, made with the Stalks of Tobacco, Soap, *&c.*

Of the Cankers, or Bliſters, in SHEEPS *Mouths.*

The Nature of the Canker, or Bliſter Diſeaſe, in and about the Mouth of a Sheep; and how it is bred.

OF theſe Particulars all Authors have been ſilent; and, therefore, I have to ſay, that this Diſtemper is moſtly bred, in the Mouths of Sheep, in Summer Time, becauſe it is chiefly occaſioned by Droughts and Heats, that generally bring the Mouth of the Beaſt into a ſad and painful Condition, by raiſing in it many red Puſtles, or Pimples, that ſometimes extend themſelves, even to the very Outſide of

the Creature's Lips; and as they are of an herpy eating Quality, they'll run apace, and ſpoil the Sheep if too long neglected curing. Now to know when a Sheep has the Cankers, or Bliſters in its Mouth, it will diſcover its Ail, by refuſing to eat, in the Manner it uſually does; in this Caſe, I ſhall here expoſe a valuable Remedy, that will not fail anſwering Expectation, if rightly made uſe of: But firſt, I ſhall tranſcribe what an ancient Author ſays upon this Diſeaſe.

Adam Speed's *Receipt for killing the Canker in a Sheep's Mouth.*----He preſcribes the ſame Remedy for this, as *Lambert* has done for the Ringworm, before-mentioned; which is, to make a Mixture of Sallad-Oil, Salt, and Allum, diſſolved, and well incorporated over a gentle Fire, and anoint with it; do this two or three Times.

This Author's Receipt, for the Cure of a Sheep or Lamb's bliſter'd Mouth.----If Bliſters are found in the Mouth of a Sheep, for a preſent Remedy, take Virgin, or freſh Mould, and rub it well on the bliſter'd Part; then piſs on the ſame. Repeat, if Occaſion.

This Author's ſecond Receipt for the Canker in a Sheep, or Lamb's Mouth.----To cure this malign Diſeaſe effectually, when Herbs are green, and in the Height of their Sap, take a Handful of Woodbine Leaves, a Handful of Salt, a Handful of Plantane Leaves, Half a Pint of Honey, and a Pint of ſtrong Vinegar; theſe boil in three Pints of Spring Water, ſtrain the Herbs from the Liquor, and bottle it. With this ſame Liquor waſh the Sheep or Lamb's Mouth, as you ſee Occaſion, and you need not doubt of a Cure; for, I aſſure you, that this Medicine has cured many Sheep of the Cankers, and ſo it will the Bliſters, if you apply it, after breaking them, two or three Times. Therefore I know wiſe Shepherds that conſtantly keep a Bottle of this Liquor by them, that they may have it ready to uſe at the Beginning of this Malady.

Of a Sheep's *piſſing Blood.*

How Sheep are brought under the Malady of piſſing bloody Water.

IN all the Books I ever read, relating to Sheep, I cannot find that any one of their Authors have paid the leaſt Regard to this Malady, of a Sheep's piſſing Blood; though I know only one old Shepherd, that lived in the Vale of

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Aylesbury, affirm it for Truth, that he had known a Score, or more, of Sheep, troubled with this Diſtemper, and cured by the following Receipt. Now how this Malady is firſt begun in a Sheep, I am here to account for. Where a Shepherd looks after a large Flock of two, or three, or four hundred Sheep, there commonly are many large Wether Sheep among them, ſome of which will now and then quarrel with their Fellows, and make vehement Puſhes at one another, with their Heads; at laſt, he that has the worſt of the Battle commonly runs away, the other, highly exaſperated with Revenge, to take the Advantage of his ſudden Retreat, generally makes the laſt Butt, with his Horns, againſt the Side of the Runaway, and hitting its Loins, ſo bruiſes its Kidneys, as to cauſe it to make bloody Water, which, if not timely cured, may kill the Beaſt. This is one, and the chiefeſt Way, that a Sheep is brought under to make bloody Water; which being to be cured by two Vegetables, I ſhall, in the firſt Place, give an Account of their Virtues.

The Character, that a Phyſician gives, of the Comfrey Root, and the Herb Periwinkle.—And firſt of the Comfrey Root: It is, ſays he, mucilaginous, vulnerary, and conglutinative; it heals all Wounds, external and internal, ſtops Fluxes of Blood in Wounds, helps Spitting of Blood, and Ulcers in the Lungs; it is good againſt Ruptures, and Pains in the Back; it cures broken Bones, and Diſlocations. It may be uſed in Powder, but a Mucilage is beſt; otherwiſe, a Decoction, in ſtrong Ale, will ſerve the Turn. And as to Periwinkle, it is, ſays he, hot and dry, is ſegnotick, and vulnerary, ſtops the Bloody-Flux, and all other Laxes, and ſpitting of Blood. This being premiſed, I ſhall next give you the Receipt, as follows, *viz.*

This Author's Receipt to cure a Sheep of piſſing bloody Water.—Take Comfrey Root, and the Herb Periwinkle, boil theſe in two Quarts of Strong-Beer, till it comes to one; give the liquid Part, in ſmall Quantities, till the Blood is ſtopt. Thus it appears, that Things good to cure Diſeaſes in the human Body, are likewiſe ſerviceable in the Cure of thoſe that Beaſts are afflicted with.

Of the Diſeaſe, called the Garget, in a SHEEP's *Maw.*

This Author's Receipt to cure the Garget in a Sheep's Maw.

THIS Malady is diſcovered by the Sheep's loſing its Appetite, and rattling in its Stomach, is a very dangerous Malady, and if not cured in Time, will bring on the Death of the Beaſt. To cure this, take whole Muſtard-Seed, and mix it with ſome Strong-Beer and White-Wine, give the Seed, and Liquor together, according to Diſcretion. This Receipt was the only one in Practice with that famous old Shepherd *John Reed*, of *Stutely*, in *Buckinghamſhire*, for this Diſtemper. But for further illuſtrating the Cure of this Diſtemper, I will here recite the Words of ſome ancient Authors, relating to the ſame.

Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt for any Cough, or Cold.*------ SAYS he, you ſhall know a Sheep's Illneſs, by his coughing and Shortneſs of Breath; therefore ſtamp Coltsfoot and Lungwort, and ſtrain their Juice into a little Honey and Water, which give the Sheep to drink.

Adam Speed's *Receipt for Shortneſs of Breath and Cough.*-- SAYS this Author, Take Fennigreek Seeds, Cummin Seeds, and the Powder of Liquorice, of each two Ounces, Coltsfoot a Handful, three Ounces of Sallad-Oil, boil them in three Pints of Stale Beer, ſtrain out the liquid Part, and give it the Sheep, faſting, Half a Pint in a Morning, blood-warm. This chargeable, troubleſome Receipt ſays Oil of Almonds, and is undoubtedly a good one, but ſuch that a Farmer will hardly be brought to uſe, for if many Sheep ſhould be in this Condition, it would be an Expence indeed. And though theſe two laſt Receipts, are not directly adapted to the Cure of the Garget in the Maw, yet they are ſo nearly contriv'd for it, that I have thought fit to tranſcribe them; and, alſo,

James Lambert's *Receipt for a Cold, or Huſking Cough.*-- THIS Author ſeems to have abſtracted the foregoing Receipts, by ſaying, Take the Juice of Lungwort, and Liquorice in Powder, each two Ounces, Sallad-Oil, four Ounces, the Juice of the Herb Coltsfoot, an Ounce; give it, faſting, in a Pint of warm Oil. To which I ſhall, only, add one more, of another ancient Author's, that my Reader may be the better Judge, which to make uſe of.

J— B—*'s Receipt, from his Book, intituled,* The Epitome of Huſbandry, *for the ſhort Breath, and Purſineſs of a Sheep.* —You muſt, ſays he, cut their Ears, and change their Paſture; alſo, ſlit their Noſtrils: Some, ſays he, hold it neceſſary to give them Aniſeeds, Liquorice, and Sugar-Candy, all finely beaten together; and mixed with old Greaſe, or of the Powder of Juniper Berries, adminiſtered to them, with the Juice of Angelica, with a Horn, in Wine, or Water, is excellently good.

Of the Loſs of a SHEEP *or* LAMB*'s Cud.*

Some Account of the Loſs of a Sheep or Lamb's Cud.

THIS ſometimes proves a mortal Malady to a Sheep, or Lamb, becauſe when this happens to be the Caſe, the Beaſt, by ſome Means or other, is out of Order; and for knowing when a Sheep or Lamb is in this Condition, it will have a large Parcel of ſpued-up Cud, on one Side of its Mouth. Thus ſome Sheep will have as much of it, as ſeemingly is as big as a Boy's Fiſt, ſticking out, but cannot chew it, ſo that it forces itſelf out, by ſmall Degrees, at one Corner of its Mouth. This Malady is, alſo, to be diſcovered by the Sheep's pining away, and growing leaner and leaner; and, if not cured, will die.

How an ignorant Farmer loſt a Sheep, by not knowing how to recover its loſt Cud.----I HAD not known this, but as the Farmer told it me, after it had happened; then, he ſaid, that he had only one Sheep in his Flock ever in this Condition, and not knowing what to do to cure it, he let it pine away and die. Wherefore, to prevent the like Diſaſter, I ſhall, before I give my Reader my Receipts, give him a Copy of ſome others, from ancient Authors; and firſt I ſhall begin with

Adam Speed*'s Receipt for the Loſs of a Sheep's Cud.*—TAKE a Handful, ſays he, of Wheat Flour, and a Spoonful of Bay Salt, make theſe into little Balls, with ſome ſharp Vinegar, a little bigger than Hazle Nuts. Thruſt two or three down his Throat, faſting, as near as may be; do it two or three Mornings, and give Water after it, wherein Sorrel has been boiled, or for Want of that, mix it with a little Verjuice.

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Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt for a Sheep's Loſs of Cud.*---A BEAST, ſays he, through Careleſsneſs in chewing, will many Times loſe its Cud, and then mourn, and leave to eat. The certain Cure whereof is, to take a little ſour Leaven and Salt, and beating it in a Mortar, with Man's Urine and Loam, make it into Pellets, and force him to ſwallow them down, and it will recover his Cud.

James Lambert's *Receipt for the ſame Purpoſe.*------THIS Author, as he has done moſt others, has altered *Markham's* Receipt, by Way of Improvement, and therefore, he ſays, For this Malady, mix Powder of Allum with Clay, ſteep it in the Urine of a Man, a Night, then take it out, and make it up into little Pellets; dry them in a Fire-Shovel, or Oven, and force them down the Sheep's Throat, ſix or ſeven Times, at diſtinct Hours, giving every Time after them, a Spoonful of Elder Vinegar, and the Cud will be reſtored.

J— B—'s *Remedy for a Sheep that hath loſt her Cud.*---IF a Sheep, ſays he, hath loſt her Quid, notwithſtanding ſhe will eat all Day, and caſt it up at Night again, (which Caſting will be like the Paunch of a Beaſt) for ſhe cannot digeſt it, but pines away, by little and little. For the Cure you muſt take Quidwort, that groweth among Corn, like to Groundſel, bruiſe a Quantity thereof, and then mark when you do ſee another Sheep chew the Quid, and take Part of her Quid out of her Mouth, and mix it with the bruiſed Quidwort, and roll it together, and ſo give it, make her ſwallow it, and ſhe will do well.

This Author's Receipt to recover the Cud of a Sheep or Lamb.----THIS was practiſed on one of my Neighbour's Lambs, which having loſt its Cud, he put ſome Oats in its Mouth; and by working his Jaws a little, it will cauſe him to ſwallow them. This he repeated the ſecond and third Day, and it brings the Cud, in either Sheep or Lamb.

This Author's ſecond Receipt to cure a Sheep of the Loſs of its Cud.----WHEN this Malady is diſcovered, by the aforeſaid Signs, our Shepherds make no more to do, than give a Sheep, in this Condition, a Lick of Tar, twice a Day, for ſeveral Days, and it recovers them. A Tea Spoonful is enough at a Time.

His third Receipt for the ſame.------PUT three ſmall Frogs down the Sheep's Throat, and it will recover it.

How Sheep chew their Cud.------A SHEEP, Deer, Cow, or Goat, all ſwallow Peaſe, or Beans, whole, and therefore

a Sheep eats them up preſently; for theſe all come again to be grinded by Way of Cud; ſo a Sheep, or Cow their Hay; they'll give it only a Twiſt, or ſhort Chew, juſt enough to ſwallow it, in order to bring it up again, for chewing it as Cud.

Of Tagging SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

The Meaning of the Word Tagging.

THE Meaning of the Word Tagging, I am the rather induced to explain, becauſe ſeveral of the ancient Authors call it the Belt, a Name for it I never met with out of their Books. Tagging is made uſe of, when a Sheep, or Lamb, by dunging looſe, and thin, lodges it about the Wool on the Part, and there by drying breeds a Cruſt, and that Maggots. In Ewes, alſo, their Piſs is apt to contribute towards this Malady: And a dangerous Malady it is, becauſe, here, if a careleſs Looker-after of Sheep ſuffer them to come under this Misfortune, the Maggots will ſoon eat into their Fundament, and kill them; yet I cannot ſay that Maggots are here bred by only the Dung and Stale of the Beaſt; for as this is a hot Part of the Sheep's Body, and very much out of the Power of the Creature to relieve itſelf, by its Foot, or Horn, the Sweat and Moiſture, by the Cover of the Tail, is apt alone to breed the Maggots, that is to ſay, the Moiſture of this Part is apt to cauſe a Soreneſs of it, and then the Fly comes, blows, and leaves its Eggs on it, that produce Maggots; and when once the Maggots are bred here, their Dung, or Stale, or both, will quickly increaſe their Numbers, ſo that the Creature will be ſoon eaten by them. Or, take it this Way, as one well expreſſes it: Sheep, or Lambs may be ſaid to be tagged, or belt, when they have a Flux, or continual Running of Ordure, which lighting upon the Tail, the Heat of the Dung, by its ſcalding, breeds the Scab; but I ſay, that ſuch a ſaline Foulneſs will firſt cauſe the Part to be ſore, before it can breed the Scab, and as their Dung and Urine comes, by Degrees, to increaſe, they not only do this Miſchief, but, alſo, torment the Beaſt to the making it loſe its Appetite, and ſo hinders much of its feeding, and fattening. Now what we, in *Hertfordſhire*, call tagging a Sheep, or Lamb, is cutting, or clipping away, with a Pair of Sheers, the dungy or piſt Wool, in order to prevent a further

further Increaſe of ſuch Foulneſs; and, alſo, the better to come at and kill the Maggots, if there be any on the Part: And the Tag-Locks, thus cut off, from many Sheep, a good Huſbandman will choicely lay by, and ſave, for one of the beſt of Dreſſings, for his Corn Land.

When Sheep are to be tagged.----SOME Farmers have their Sheep tagged, perhaps, Half a dozen Times in a Year, more or leſs, as Occaſion requires, for as often as they foul their Wool, or hind Part, to any Damage, they muſt be well looked after, tagged and cleaned, to prevent Soreneſs, and breeding the Maggot. Others, more careful, about *May* clip away the Wool, whether there be any Damage done or not; and this they do by Way of Prevention, for by keeping the Wool cut cloſe, it keeps theſe Parts cool, and is a great Security againſt the enſuing hot Weather's cauſing the matting of the Dung, and giving the Fly an Opportunity to bite, and blow the Sheep in theſe Parts; but of this more preſently.

The Caſe of a young unexperienced Farmer, who tagg'd his Sheep to a good Purpoſe, but was wrong in docking his Sheep. ----THIS Farmer having about five and twenty Sheep, that he deſigned to fat in Turnips the following Winter, about *Auguſt* 1747, he tagg'd and dock'd every one of them, firſt, that he might prevent any Damage that might happen, from Dung lodging behind, leſt it corroded the Part, made it ſore, and gave the Fly an Opportunity to blow it, and breed Maggots. Secondly, He at the ſame Time docked every Sheep, by cutting a Bit off the End of each Sheep's Tail, which Docking he did for two Reaſons; one was for keeping the Sheep in Health, and the other, for giving every one of them a ſhort Tail, that their Bodies might look the plumper, and ſeem fatter to the Eye of a Buyer than they were; the Conſequence of which was, that he greatly damaged the Sheep, by cutting their Tails, at this Time of Year; for now the Fly got at the new-cut Part, blow'd the Wound, and bred the Maggots, ſo that what with the Bite, or Sting of the Fly, and the Maggots, inſtead of getting Fleſh at Graſs, they pined and grew lean through Pain. And indeed, as this happened in the next Pariſh to *Little Gaddeſden*, I was informed the young Farmer had much ado to ſave ſome of their Lives; at beſt, they were much longer fatting in the Turnips, for his docking them in hot Weather, than they would have been, had he done it later, in *October*, when the Weather was cooler.

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Adam Speed's *Receipt for the Belt, as he calls it, or tagging Sheep.*----To cure this, ſays he, cut away the Tags, lay the Sore open, caſt curious fine Mould on it, and lay on a Plaiſter of Tar, Oil of Tar, Oil of Turpentine, and Gooſe-greaſe, well mixed and incorporated together.

Gervaiſe Markham's *Receipt, for the Tag or Belt in Sheep.*----A SHEEP, ſays he, is ſaid to be tagg'd, or belt, when by a continual Squirt, running out of his Ordure, he berayeth his Tail, in ſuch wiſe, that through the Heat of the Dung it ſcaldeth, and breedeth the Scab therein. The Cure is, with a Pair of Sheers to cut away the Tags, and to lay the Sore bare and raw, and then to throw Earth dried upon it, and after that Tar and Gooſe-greaſe mixt together.

J---- B----'s *Receipt to belt a Sheep, as he calls it.*----If any Sheep, ſays he, ray, or be filled with Dung above the Tail, let the Shepherd take a Pair of Sheers, and clip it away, and let him caſt dry Mould thereon, and if it be in the Heat of Summer, it ſhould be rubbed over with a little Tar to keep away the Flies. It is, ſays he, further neceſſary, that the Shepherd ſhould have a Board, ſet faſt to the Side of his little Fold, to lay his Sheep upon, when he handleth them, and a Hole bored in the Board, with an Auger, and therein a ground Stake of two Feet long, to be ſet faſt, to hang his Tar-Box upon, that it may not fall. A Shepherd, alſo, ſhould not go without his Dog, his Sheep-Hook, a Pair of Sheers, and his Tar-Box, either with him, or ready at his Sheep-Fold, and he muſt teach his Dog to bark, when he would have him, or elſe he is no right Shepherd; his Dog muſt be taught when he is a Whelp, otherwiſe it will be hard to make an old Dog ſtoop, or to be pliant.

James Lambert's *Receipt for the Belt, as he likewiſe calls it.*----THIS Author, like the laſt, borrowing from old *Adam Speed*, ſays, Cut away the Tags, and open the Sore, caſt fine ſifted Mould on it, and cover that with a Plaiſter of Tar, Oil of Turpentine, and Gooſe-greaſe. Another Author ſays, After the Tags are cut away, and the Sore laid open, waſh it with human Urine, or ſtrong Brine, and then ſtrew fine Mould over the Part, then lay on a Mixture of Tar, Gooſe-greaſe, or Hog's-Lard; repeat the ſtrewing of the Mould, and, he ſays, it is a perfect Cure. But to remove the inward Cauſe of Sheeps tagging themſelves, he ſays, they ſhould have a Diet given them of Oats, and fine Hay, with a ſprinkling of Bay-Salt finely beaten, and with it a ſmall Quantity of the Powder of Juniper-Berries.

This Author's Receipt for tagging Sheep and Lambs.----In my foregoing Account I have ſhewn when Sheep are to be tagged of their foul dungy Wool; but not having been full enough there, I here add, that it is the Practice of my Shepherd, every Year, to clip away the Wool from the broad Tails of thoſe Sheep, as we think have ſo much on them, as to hinder their Ramming; therefore, as the Want of doing this, in due Time, may occaſion the Loſs of a Lamb, he clips away ſome of that Wool, which he thinks grows too thick about the Tail, and the other hind Parts of the Ewe's Body, leſt it prove an Impediment to the Ram; and alſo for the better preventing the ill Conſequences of their ſcouring, and dunging themſelves, to their breeding of Maggots. But when a Sheep has ſcour'd, and befoul'd itſelf behind, ſo as to cauſe the Wool to be matted, it is then high Time to employ the Sheers, and whether the Maggots are bred on the Part or not, to apply the following, or ſome other efficacious Remedy. Take Elder Leaves, and rub them between your Hands, till they are almoſt of a Maſh; in this their Conſiſtence, rub them ſoundly on the Place, where the Sheers have been employed, and then rub Mould over that again, to faſten and keep the Elder longer on. This is our quickeſt and readieſt Way, and is ſo effectual for this Purpoſe, that I have known my next Neighbour, the oldeſt Farmer in our Pariſh, never to make uſe of any other Remedy, and he kept his Sheep in as good Order as any; for, he well knew that Elder, thus applied, would deſtroy the Maggots, heal the Sores they made, keep off the Fly, and prevent further Damage, for ſome Time. But for a greater Aſſurance of curing this Malady, you may have Recourſe to the following Receipt.

This Author's ſecond Receipt, for the ſame Purpoſe.--WHEN Sheep ſcour, ſo as to foul themſelves, after the naſty Wool is clipped off, mix Hog's Lard, Tar, and Train-Oil together, with ſome Drops of Oil of Turpentine, and when theſe are mixed according to Diſcretion, beſmear it on the clipt Part, lay it on cloſe, and then ſtrew on the ſame ſome Coal, or Wood Aſhes, or for Want of this, ſome dry, or other Mould. The Aſhes, or Mould, ſerves to bind the Ingredients on; the Tar, alſo, ſerves to the ſame Purpoſe, will kill Maggots, keep off the Fly, and heal their Wounds; the Greaſe and Oil likewiſe are Maggot-killers, great Healers, and by their ſtrong Scent, and moiſt Qualities, will keep off Flies a long Time; and I do aſſure my Reader, that

either of theſe Receipts, if rightly made uſe of, will effectually anſwer their End, and the better, if the laſt is applied full hot. And for taking away the Cauſe of that, which occaſions Sheep to want Tagging, obſerve my following Account, of curing Sheep of their black, or white Scouring.

Of the Skit, or Scour, of SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

The Cauſe and Nature of the Skit, or Scour, of Sheep and Lambs.

OF all the Authors that I have traced, on this Account, I cannot find but one that gives a Receipt for the Cure of this Malady, and he does it in very few Words, without aſſigning the Cauſe of the Skit, Scour, or Looſeneſs in a Sheep or Lamb; wherefore, I ſhall here preſent my Reader, with what I know is the Cauſe of this Diſtemper. Firſt, it may be occaſioned, by a poor Sheep being put into a full Bite, at once, of Graſs, or Turnips, or Rapes; or, Secondly, it happens, ſometimes, to a Sheep in good Heart and Fleſh, while it feeds on the watery Turnip, or Rape; and, Thirdly, by their feeding on the Roots of Southiſtles, which are often turned up in our incloſed, Chiltern, Arable Lands, by the Plough, and lie above Ground; and, Fourthly, and moſt of all, by eating Groundſel, which is a Weed that infects many of our gravelly, and loamy Fields, and which cauſes Sheep to ſcour, and have a Looſeneſs, more than any one Thing elſe, as being a very cold, moiſt Vegetable. Fifthly, it may be taken by Contagion, for we reckon that the white Scour is catching, when the black Scour is not.

The Receipt of a particular Author for the Cure of a Skit, or Looſeneſs, in a Sheep or Lamb.----GIVE, ſays he, ſome Salt, Chalk, and Allum in ſmall Drink, or Water, and it will ſoon knit the Sheep or Lamb.

This Author's Receipt for ſtopping and curing the Skit, or Looſeneſs, in a Sheep or Lamb.--BEAT ſome Chalk very fine, and boil it in Milk; of this give a Sheep or Lamb ſome Spoonfuls of the liquid Part; or, give it one Spoonful, at a Time, of the ſettled, or Bottom Chalk, that will fall and lie at the Bottom of the Milk. Repeat the Doſe, as often as you find Occaſion. I knew a Perſon cure a Sheep, with this alone, that had been under a Scouring a long Time.

This Author's ſecond Receipt for curing the black Scour, or Looſeneſs in Sheep or Lambs.---NOTWITHSTANDING what I am here going to advance, as a Cure for the black Skit or Scour in a Sheep, or Lamb, may ſeem inſignificant to ſome Readers, yet we, in *Hertfordſhire*, lay ſuch Streſs on it, that if it fails curing, we think the Caſe is very bad with the Creature, indeed. For this, we only ſew up the Tail of the Sheep, or Lamb to its Back Wool, and at the ſame Time piſs in its Mouth. This has cured ſeveral Sheep, at once, that were troubled with the black Scour, to my Knowledge, in a Neighbour's Flock, as well as in my own; and the Reaſon we aſſign for this its ſalubrious Effect is, becauſe it gives the Air an Opportunity to blow into the Creature's Fundament, and thus cools the Part, and proves ſo aſtringent as to ſtop the Scouring.

This Author's third Receipt, to cure either a black or white Scour in a Sheep or Lamb.----THERE is ſuch a Difference between the black and white Scour, in a Sheep and Lamb, that, as I ſaid, the former is not contagious, when the latter is, and therefore is of a much more malignant Nature; and, although all Authors have hitherto been ſilent in making an Obſervation between the black and white Scour, undoubtedly, becauſe they were ignorant of the Matter, yet is it not leſs true. It is true indeed, that the white Scour is a Diſeaſe that ſeldom happens, yet I knew a neighbouring Farmer loſe ten of his folding Sheep by it, in one Year, out of his Flock of three hundred, notwithſtanding he rented one of the drieſt Farms of Land, in our Chiltern, incloſed Country. But the Misfortune is the eaſier accounted for, as it happened in the Year 1735, which was one of the wetteſt I ever knew, and thereby it cauſed a general Rot among Sheep and Lambs; for, even in this very dry Farm, the frequent Rains produced ſuch a Length of Trefoil, Clover, and natural Graſs, as with the Water, that lodged about it, brought on, I ſuppoſe, the white Scour; for the Cure of which, I ſhall here offer my Reader one of the beſt Receipts I am Maſter of; and that is, Take one Spoonful of Chalk, very finely beaten to a Powder, and mix it with two Spoonfuls of old Verjuice; this being well mixed, give it by the Spoon to each Sheep or Lamb, and it ſeldom fails of curing the Beaſt at once; if it ſhould, repeat, I have, by my Shepherd, given this Remedy to ſeveral of my own Sheep, at Times, that have had the white Scour, and never fail'd curing them, by ſewing up their Tails, and giving them, twice at moſt,

moſt, of this Mixture, when other Remedies failed. Not that all Sheep can be cured by any Remedy whatſoever, as the following Caſe ſhews.

The Caſe of a Chiltern Farmer, who had a Sheep died of the Scour, while it was feeding, for fatting on Turnips.----- THIS Farmer, I know, had a Parcel of Sheep fatting on Turnips, when ſeveral of them, through the Sappineſs, and Frimneſs of the Plants, ſcoured a black Scour; but by the Application of a proper Remedy, he cured all but one, and one pined away, till it died, on the 21ſt of *March*, 1745-6; ſo dying, it moved the Farmer's Curioſity to have its Body opened, when he found the Liver of the Sheep perfectly rotten. In this Caſe, you ſee a Remedy may fail, and ſo it may on a ſound-livered Sheep, if the Beaſt is too long neglected, and it has got too poor and weak to be recover'd by Medicine.

Several of this Author's Sheep tagg'd on the 20th of May, 1748.-----ON this Day ſeveral of my folding Sheep wanted Tagging, the Ewe Sort eſpecially, for as it rained almoſt all the preceding Night; the Sheep's Wool became much wetted, and cauſed the Dung and Urine of the Ewes to begin tainting, which ſoon would have invited the Fly to blow this Part, to the Breeding of Maggots; but my Shepherd took them in Time, by clipping off the Tag-locks from their Breech, and ſtrewing, and rubbing on the Part ſome Duſt, which prevented that Evil, that has cauſed the Death of many Sheep and Lambs. For as *May* and *June* are the two chief Months in the Year, for breeding Maggots in Sheep, if their Tagging, in due Time, is neglected, by Conſequence the Creature will be eaten alive, by theſe Inſects; and if they ſuffer this, but in a tolerable Degree, the Pain and Anguiſh of the ſore Part, will cauſe the Sheep to pine and languiſh, ſome Time, to the Loſs of its Fleſh, and preventing its Fatting.

A more particular Account of the black and white Scour in Sheep, the Cauſe of it, and how ſome Sheep have been cured, when others proved incurable.--------- THERE are two Sorts of Scouring, or Flux; one is of a blackiſh, greeniſh Colour, the other of a whitiſh Colour. The laſt is by far the moſt dangerous, inſomuch, that ſome are of Opinion that it is incurable. Both Sorts of Scouring are chiefly acquired in the Spring Seaſon, by the Sheep eating greedily, on the new, ſpungy, ſappy, flaſhy Graſs, or by their eating Groundſel, where much of it grows, as it does

more in the rich Vale, open-field, fallow Lands, than in the poorer Lands of Chiltern Countries; for, in the firſt, it grows thick and high enough to be mown the latter End of *March*, or in *April*, before the Ground is plough'd or fallowed. To cure it, Shepherds get a Piece of Elder, of a Thumb Thickneſs, which they make hollow, and pointed at one End, for fitting it to the Mouth of a Vial, out of which, they pour into a Sheep's Mouth, near Half a Pint of Verjuice, which with ſewing up the Sheep's Tail to its Back Wool, ſeldom fails of a Cure. Yet I knew a Sheep-Dealer that loſt all the Sheep in his Flock, that had the white Scour, which made him ſay, he believed it was incurable.

CHAP. VI.

Of feeding and fatting SHEEP *and* LAMBS.

An Account of an Impoſition practiſed by ſome Butchers, that ſell Mutton for Lamb; and how they manage the Bite.

THIS has been certainly done by ſome Farmers and Butchers, and undoubtedly will be done again; for which Purpoſe, the Farmer draws out his little, underling, ſtunted, two-toothed Sheep, which are Thaives, if Ewes; if Wethers, Sherugs; that have been kept on Turnips, or good Graſs, Part of the Winter, till *Lady-Day*, or thereabouts, and then as his Turnips are now generally eat up, he gives them Trough-Meat, made up with Oatmeal and Peaſe, or Beans, and thus feeds them as they do older Sheep, till there is Graſs enough in *April* to feed them for fatting; and here they go till they are fat, which will be in *May*, or the Beginning of *June*, when they put up two broad Teeth, and are a Year and about a Quarter old. In this Condition the Farmer ſells them, and the Butcher is glad to buy them, becauſe he kills and dreſſes this young Mutton in Lamb Faſhion, and thus ſelling it for Lamb, he probably gets a Halfpenny a Pound more for it, than if it was ſold for Mutton, and what adds further to his

his Profit is, that the Carcaſs of ſuch a young Sheep is generally of the largeſt Lamb-Size.—A Bite only on the Cuſtomer.

Feeding and fatting Sheep by Turnips and Trough-Meat.---A PROPER compoſed Trough-Meat, is not only neceſſary for fatting Sheep ſooner than if they were fed on bare Turnips, but alſo for keeping them from Sickneſs, while they are feeding and fattening on them, and for cauſing their Fleſh to become the ſweeter, and ſell for the greater Price. Again, dry Trough-Meat is abſolutely neceſſary on two other Accounts: Firſt, when Turnips are got hard and ſtringy, for this is their Caſe when they are old, or when long dry Weather happens before Winter, then it is that Sheep cannot thrive much on their Feed; for a dry, corky Turnip, is as bad as a frozen, rotten one to Sheep, becauſe the firſt is ſo hard, that the Sheep eat them with much Labour, and are longer digeſting them, than if the Turnips were young and frim. A corky Turnip will boil reddiſh, and are unfit for Chriſtians eating them; and if they are not fit for Man, they are not fit for Beaſt.---Secondly, when Sheep are fed on Turnips that grow on ſtiff, ſtolchy, wet Ground, their Meat ſeldom does Sheep much good, unleſs a proper Trough-Meat is conſtantly ſet by them, as an Antidote for preventing thoſe Evils, that ſuch Turnips and Ground may be the Cauſe of: But of this more by and by. ---I know a great Farmer that keeps a very large Flock of Store-Sheep, conſiſting moſtly of Wethers, and ſome Ewes; and why he keeps ſome Ewes is, becauſe he'll have a Summer as well as a Winter Profit; for after he has fatted his Number of Wethers, in the Winter, on Turnips, he fats ſome of his Ewes, with their Lambs, in Graſs, and ſo has almoſt a continual Profit.

James Hack's *Way of fatting Sheep in the Vale of* Ayleſbury.---HE ſays, that being a Shepherd in this Vale, he fatted many of his Maſter's Sheep, with clear Beans, or clear Peaſe, or a Mixture of both, with a Rack of Hay always by them, and he has fed them thus with giving them Water in a Trough once a Day, and without Water; but if they feed without Water, the Graſs muſt be long.

James Hack's *ſecond Way of fatting Sheep in the Vale of* Ayleſbury.---THIS Shepherd ſays, that about *Wing*, *Aſkot*, and *Stuteley*, where is ſome Clay, and ſome ſandy Land, and where they ſeldom have any Turnips, they fat their Sheep with Graſs and Hay and Trough-Meat; for which Purpoſe,

Purpoſe, after they had eat off moſt of the Graſs among the Stubbles, and in other Places, ſome Time in *October*, he drew out thoſe Sheep he deſign'd to fat, which were forty in Number, and put them into a ſix-acre Meadow, where ſome good Graſs had been reſerved for them; here he had three Troughs, ſeven Foot long each, made with two Boards each one, in which he daily put Oats roughly grinded, as they come from the Mill, Hulls and Meal together, mix'd with ſome Bran; and thus it became a fattening Trough-Meat; this, with a Rack of fine Hay, placed near them, fattened moſt of them in about --- Weeks Time for the Butcher.

Mr. Dell, *a Chiltern Farmer's Way of fatting broken-mouth'd Sheep*, &c.---As this Farmer keeps a large Flock of Sheep for folding and dreſſing his Ground, he generally has, every Year, ſome broken-mouth'd, and other old Sheep, to fat for the Butcher; and to do this in the beſt Manner, he takes care to feed them among his Stubbles after Harveſt, to give them an Opportunity of getting ſome Fleſh on their Backs, preparatory for their being the ſooner fatted on Turnips afterwards; then, in *October*, he firſt hurdles a Piece of Turnips out, and puts theſe broken-mouth'd, and old Sheep, into them, in order to feed and fat them for the Butcher; and that he may do this in the moſt expeditious Manner, he firſt provides himſelf with Oats and Bran, and ſome Barley-Meal, for a Trough-Meat; and having this ready, and a Field of Turnips, alſo ready, near the Farm-Houſe, he brings theſe Sheep every Night out of the Turnips into a cover'd Place at home, and there feeds them with this Trough-Meat till Morning, when they are drove into the Turnips: Then when theſe Sheep have eaten the beſt Part of the Turnips, he removes the Hurdles, and gives them a freſh Piece of Turnips; and when the former offal Turnips are pick'd up, he lets thoſe Lambs feed on them, which he bought in before laſt Harveſt, for about five Shillings a-piece; and after the Lambs have eaten what they will, he, at laſt, brings in his Store-Sheep, which being kept in a hungry Condition, gladly eat up all the refuſe Pieces of Turnips clean: And thus our Farmer fats his old Sheep, and feeds his Lambs and Store-Sheep, to the dreſſing and enriching of his Ground. But had his Field of Turnips been more diſtant from the Houſe, the Driſt would have hindred their fatting.

Fatting

Fatting broken, or whole-mouth'd Sheep, without Turnips. ---THIS is every Year done in Chiltern Countries, as well as in Vales, for where a Farmer has no Turnips, or that his Turnips are eaten off, he then can fat any of theſe if he has Graſs enough, with that and naked Peaſe; but if his Graſs is ſhort, the broken-mouth'd Sort will fail of fatting in due Time; then if it is in Autumn or Winter, there muſt be a Rack of Hay to ſupply the Want of Graſs, with a conſtant Supply of Water beſides: Thus a broken-mouth'd Sheep will fat on naked Hog-Peaſe, or Horſe Beans and Graſs, if the Graſs is not too ſhort; if it is, fine Hay will do inſtead; for though a Sheep may loſe moſt, or all of its fore Teeth, its Grinders, or Jaw-Teeth, are ſufficient to chew Corn and Hay enough to fat it, as well, almoſt, as if it had all its Teeth.

The Caſe of a Chiltern Farmer, who, by Means of Snows and Rains, was obliged to take his fatting Sheep out of his Turnips, and fat them with Peaſe.---ABOUT the Beginning of *March*, 1747-8, the Snows went off, that had lain about a Week, and Rains ſucceeding, ſo wetted the Turnips, that grew on a moiſt, loamy Land, as obliged their Owner to take out his Sheep that had been fatting ſome Time on them, and put them into an Orchard to feed on Hog-Peaſe in a Trough, where a Pond was, to drink at their Pleaſure; for theſe Sheep, as they fed on Peaſe, and Peaſe-Straw, or Haulm, would drink like a Cow, or other Beaſt; and although the Pond was ſometimes frozen, yet, as they could come at Snow, they eat it for Drink.---This Farmer, when the Ground and Turnips were dry, return'd his fatting Sheep into his Turnip Field.

The Nature of Pea-fed Mutton.---HOG-PEASE, of any Kind, are a moſt agreeable Feed to all Sheep and Lambs; if they are dry and ſweet, they'll eat them greedily; and I do aſſure my Reader, their Feed produces an excellent, ſweet Mutton and Lamb. Three Buſhels of Peaſe is generally thought to fat the largeſt Sheep with the Help of Graſs, or Hay, if it is ſound of Body, and in tolerable Caſe before-hand.

The Nature of Bean-fed Mutton.---THIS is generally a Vale Feed for fatting their Sheep, for in very few Places, they have Peaſe, and is given them either in Cribs or Troughs, or to feed on them as they lie in a Stack abroad. This Bean-Meat produces a rank Mutton, that looks of a black, reddiſh Colour, like black Blood; and as a Bean is of a nou-

riſhing Nature, a Sheep will fat on them, in two Months Time, with the Help of Hay and Water.

The Nature of Mutton and Lamb fed with Oats, Barley-Meal, Bran, or Pollard.----OF all Corn Trough-Meat, none is more agreeable to Sheep and Lambs than Oats or Peaſe; Oats are dearly beloved by them, and are very wholeſome and fattening, but are better given in a Mixture with Barley-Meal, or Bran, or Pollard, than alone: Some, I hear, have wrongly given Sheep Barley-Meal, mix'd with Bran, as an only Trough-Meat for fatting Sheep with; but this is bad Practice, becauſe the Meal will be apt to ſtick in the Sheep's Teeth, nor will they eat this Mixture long before they are cloy'd with it; but if whole Oats are mix'd with either, or both of them, it will become a good fattening Trough-Meat; or, in caſe Oats cannot be had, Peaſe will well ſupply their Place. Some are of Opinion, that Sheep love Oats, beyond all other Corn. This Mixture produces ſweet Fleſh.

Sheep and Lambs fed with Clover.---THIS few do, becauſe this artificial, rank Graſs, is very apt to hove or ſwell Sheep or Lambs that feed on it, and kill them; however there be thoſe that venture it, but then the Mutton and Lamb will have a yellowiſh Colour, and eat diſagreeably ſtrong.

Cole-fed Sheep.---A TRAVELLER born in the Iſle of *Ely*, in *Cambridgeſhire*, tells me, that great Numbers of Sheep that are fatting in this Iſland, are bought about *Horn-Caſtle*, and *Boſton* in *Lincolnſhire*, where they generally breed the largeſt Sort; ſome of theſe, he ſays, they feed and fat for a *London* Market, on their Meadow, or fenny Graſs, and others on Cole-Plants, which here flouriſh in great Quantities, and in the rankeſt Growth, by the natural, luxuriant Richneſs of their low, fenny Ground; ſo that here they have no Occaſion to be at the Expence of Hand-hoeing their Cole-Plants, as many do, to improve them in poorer Earth. Now as there is hardly any Plant that fattens a Beaſt ſooner than the Cole Sort, thoſe Sheep (he ſays) that the Graſier thinks are moſt backward in Fleſh, and require the beſt of Keeping, they feed on Cole; when thoſe that are in better Caſe, they feed altogether on their natural Graſs.---In *October*, or *November* (he ſays) they put their Sheep among their Cole to feed and fat; and ſo manage it, that they feed ſome or other of them on Cole, till *Lady-Day*, whereby they ſend many Parcels of them up to *Smith-*

field

field Market in the Winter and Spring Seaſons, in a very fat Condition, and with a Fleſh of a rankiſh Taſte; for when the Cole-Plant is grown oldiſh, it ſo affects the Breath of their Sheep, that it yields a very offenſive Smell, even in the very Road-Way, through which they paſs to *London*. But of Rape, or Cole, ſee more, at Page 82, Vol. III. *Modern Huſbandman*; for here I have only to add, that, as the Cole-Plant of itſelf produces a ſtrong, rank-taſted Mutton, it is the more neceſſary that a ſweetning Trough-Meat ſhould be always kept in the ſame Field where the Sheep feed on Cole, as well to prevent their Hoving and Sickening, as to improve their Fleſh; but as I am ſenſible the Graſier or Farmer will not be perſuaded to do it, unleſs it be a very cheap and a very fattening one, I ſhall by and by, I hope, give him full Satisfaction on this Account.

Turnip-fed Sheep.---THE Turnip is a much ſweeter Plant than the Rape or Cole, and therefore produces a better taſted Mutton and Lamb; yet even this admits of various Obſervations; for as a Turnip grows on a ſweet, or rank Soil, or, as its Growth is forwarded by a pure or impure Dreſſing, or as the Sheep or Lambs are fed in a young or old Age of the Turnip; or if the Turnip is ſound or unſound while they feed on it: I ſay, all theſe, and more Circumſtances may alter the Fleſh of the Sheep or Lambs for better or worſe, that feed and fat on them; yet Experience proves that Sheep or Lambs fatted in a Turnip Field, may be furniſhed with ſuch a ſweet Fleſh, as is little inferior (if at all) to Graſs-fed Mutton and Lamb; and this in ſo cheap a Manner, as hardly admits of an Objection to the doing of it, as I ſhall make appear by and by.

A Caſe, ſhewing how a poor Man kept eighty Sheep all the Year on a Common, that did not ſtand him in above five Shillings keeping.---ONE *Daniel Eaſt*, a poor Man, that lived about a Quarter of a Mile from me, told me, on *July* 24, 1747, when he was above ninety Years of Age, that he once bought a Score of the *Derbyſhire-Peak*, ſmall Breed of Sheep, that carried on them extream fine Wool; and were of ſo hardy a Nature, that they would live in Winter on the Bite of Furze. He ſays, he kept eighty Sheep one hard Winter, on *Barkhamſtead* Common, and they did not ſtand him in above five Shillings in Hay, becauſe they eat Furze, when they could not come at Graſs. Furze (he ſaid) is moſt tender till *Midſummer*, and that Sheep will eat it at one Year's Growth, much better than when it is two Years

old, becauſe it is then ſo much the harder. His Flock was compoſed of Ewes and Wethers.

Different Management of two Farmers, in the feeding of their Store-Sheep.---THESE Farmers live in the Chiltern Country of *Hertfordſhire*, and very near one another, keeping each a very large Flock of Sheep, and ſow many Acres with Turnip-Seed, in their incloſed Fields, every Year: One of them, in the Winter Time, baits his Sheep in his Turnip-Field every Day, and at Night brings them into his large Yard, well litter'd with Straw, wherein ſtand ſeveral Racks of one Sort of Straw or other; and thus he makes, it's thought, an hundred Loads of Dung in a Year.---The other thinks it better Huſbandry to feed his Store-Sheep on Turnips, and fold his dry Ground all the Winter.---Others, that have no Turnips, will drive their Flock to a Common in the Day, and bring them every Night into the Straw-Yard to feed and make Dung.

Mr. Gould's *Way of feeding his Store-Sheep among his Field Horſe-Beans.*---THIS is a Chiltern Farmer, and has followed this Practice for ſome Time, as believing it good Huſbandry to let his Store-Sheep feed among his Beans, though they were ſown and grown in a promiſcuous Manner, becauſe they pick out and live on the Weeds; and this he does now and then till the Beans are in Bloſſom, but no longer, leſt they eat or rub the Bloſſoms off: A Practice carried on throughout all Vales; for if it was not for their feeding their Sheep among their Beans, their Crops would be of little Value.

Feeding Store-Sheep among Field-Peaſe.---THIS is a bold Practice ventured at of late, by ſome of our Chiltern Farmers, who turn their Sheep among them before they bloſſom, ſaying, at firſt, they expect the Sheep will crop a few of the Pea-Tops, but will ſoon leave them, and fall to feeding on the Weeds. And I know a Gentleman Farmer, that ſays he never, by this, miſſes of a good Crop of Peaſe.

A Gentleman kept more Sheep on a Common than he had a Right to.---THIS Gentleman lived in a Chiltern Country, and having a Right to feed Sheep on a large Common, intruded double the Number of his Store-Sheep on it; ſo that inſtead of one hundred and fifty, he kept three hundred: It is true, the Common is not a ſtinted one, yet the ancient equitable Cuſtom allows but one Sheep to each Acre of Arable Land that a Farmer occupies. But this Gentleman

being Maſter of a very bulky Eſtate, took that Liberty, which an inferior Perſon dared not to attempt.

Sheep kept in Proportion to Ground.---At *Wing*, *Aſkot*, and *Stuteley*, and ſo in all the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, they count half an Acre of Commoning to a Sheep, for here they are ſtinted. Lambs, at *Lammas-Day*, are ſold for Sheep; and, at this Time, a Steward goes about the Fields to examine the Number of every Man's Flock, and if he finds any that keep above their Quota, he pounds them, and makes them pay Twopence a Head within the Pariſh, and Fourpence out of it; and if they don't pay it, he'll drive their Sheep to Market, ſell them, and pay himſelf. *Lammas* Ground, on which Corn or artificial Graſs are ſown, if it is not clear'd by *Lammas-Day*, or the Day after, they can turn in their Flocks of Sheep, and damage their Corn or Graſs, as it ſometimes happens by the Neglect of Afternoon Farmers; and, from that Time, they feed their Flocks here till *Lady-Day*: And as to their open-field, Meadow Ground, as ſoon as they get their Hay off, they turn in their Flocks of Sheep; and, for Haſte Sake, ſometimes they will let them follow the Hay Cart. Thus they feed their Folding Store-Sheep till *Lady-Day*; but, from that Time, they ſhut out all Sheep from their Corn-Ground, Meadow-Ground, Head-Lands, and Graſs-Baulks, *&c. &c.* and oblige them to feed their Sheep on Commons, and in their Fallow-Fields.

Pounding Sheep in Vales.---In the Vale of *Ayleſbury*, it is their Cuſtom to hire Stewards by the Year, paid by the Farmers of a Pariſh, in Proportion to the Quantity of Land they occupy; beſides which, he has Twopence Pinlock Money, for any Sheep he finds among Corn, even if they are the Man's Sheep that owns the Corn; he alſo pounds ſtray Cattle, and keeps them twenty-four Hours in the Pound, giving them Meat, then takes them out, and keeps them in ſome incloſed Place, till cry'd at three Market Towns; and if not own'd, he delivers them into the Hands of the Lord of the Manor, for the Perſon to pay all Charges, if redeemed.

Of fatting two-toothed, four-toothed, and ſix-toothed Sheep. ---Mr. *WELLS*, a Gentleman who occupied his own Eſtate near me, uſed to fat two-toothed Sheep, for the moſt dainty Mutton of all others; for the Fleſh of ſuch a young Sheep will weigh heavier than that of an older Sheep, becauſe it is full furniſhed with Gravy, and the Bones with Marrow; but

then

then the Kidneys of it are leſs furniſhed with Fat, than thoſe of an older Sheep.---Others fat four-toothed Sheep for the very beſt of Mutton, as being grown to a right Maturity of Perfection.---Others again ſay, that a ſix-toothed Sheep makes the beſt Mutton, as they reckon ſuch a one in its Prime of Growth; that is to ſay, it has not too much of the Lamb in it, nor two much of the Age in it; but after it has acquired ſix broad Teeth before, its Carcaſs declines, and its Fleſh gets drier and drier from Gravy.

Of keeping Sheep poor, of feeding Ewes and Lambs with Grains, and of bringing Lambs to eat Hay.---It is too often the Caſe of Chiltern Farmers to bring their Store-Sheep under much Poverty, and ſometimes Death, for want of a ſufficient Winter Food for them. Thoſe that truſt to their Turnip Feed, are now and then diſappointed of it by dry Weather, or by the Fly, *&c.* and then the poor Sheep muſt take their Chance of getting a Living on their barren Fields, or Commons, or in Lanes; and if a ſnowy, long Seaſon follows, they'll give them nothing but Straw or Hay; and as they keep young and old Sheep, and Lambs, in one Flock, if the younger Sort won't eat it, they muſt die, as many do commonly every Year. Some Lambs will ſtarve before they'll eat Hay enough to keep them alive, and a two-toothed Sheep will but make Shift to eat Straw ſufficient for it; but when they have four Teeth, they do better; and when they have ſix broad Teeth, or are full-mouth'd, they then eat Straw the beſt of all. A Butcher Farmer by me, gave his Ewes and Lambs Grains in a Trough, in the Month of *March*, when the Ground was cover'd with Snow, and it produced abundance of Milk, which, with Hay beſides, kept them well, and learnt the Lambs to eat Hay with their Dams as they fed together; which made this Butcher ſay, he thought it the beſt Way to learn Lambs to eat Hay, as it is a dry Food, and agrees well with the wet Grains. And it is to be obſerved, that about this Time of Year, when Graſs is eat up, or ſpoiled by the Froſt, many Lambs and young Sheep tip off and die, that don't eat Straw or Hay well; therefore ſome have been at the Pains to learn their Lambs to eat Hay, by drawing ſome now and then through their Grinders; and the ſame of Bran, or other Trough Food, they'll cram a Parcel now and then in their Mouths, for obliging them to mumble and chew it. This Butcher tells me, that the Lambs

at

at two Months old, eat Hay with their Ewes, when ſome, at a Year old, will die before they'll eat enough.

Feeding Sheep on Clover-Hay.---THIS, if inned or houſed a little green and dry, will heat and mow-burn; then it comes out ſo ſweet, as to intice Sheep to eat it very greedily, and make but little Orts of its Stalks. The ſix-tooth'd Sheep, and the full-mouth'd Sheep agree beſt with this Food, becauſe they have the ſharpeſt and ſtrongeſt Teeth; and if they have Graſs, or Turnips, or Cole, or Water to come at beſides, they'll thrive apace on it.

A poor Ram, and a poor Ewe and its Lamb, fatted on Peaſe and Hay.---A YEOMAN, of about ſeventy Pounds a Year Eſtate, having, among his Flock of Sheep, a poor Ram, and a toothleſs Ewe, undertook to fat them with Peaſe and Hay; and accordingly, he kept them in his Orchard in the Winter, 1747, with a Trough furniſhed now and then with Hog-Peaſe, and a Rack of Hay beſides, and where they had Liberty to go and drink at a Pond when they would; here the Ewe lamb'd about *Chriſtmas*, and went on well with feeding on the Peaſe and the Hay, till, in Time, the Lamb took to eating the Peaſe, and thus they both fatted to Admiration; ſo that, on the 6th of *April*, 1748, this Lamb was killed in a fat Condition, and yielded a very ſweet Meat, as I am a Judge of, having eaten Part of the ſame. And though I call the Ewe a toothleſs one, I don't mean that ſhe had no Teeth, for her Grinders were good; but all her fore Teeth were gone, yet ſhe could eat Peaſe and Hay well: And thus the Ram, the Ewe, and the Lamb, were all rightly fatted for the Butcher.---This is the right Feed to give fatting Sheep, when Turnips are eaten up and gone.

A Farmer feeds his Store-Sheep with Thetches in their Straw.---A *HERTFORDSHIRE* Farmer, that lives on the Edge of a Common, feeds them all Day on the Common, and at Night brings them into his Yard, and gives them Thetches in their Straw in a Rack, and what Thetches are ſcatter'd on the Ground, the Hogs pick up; ſo that the Sheep eat the Straw and ſome of the Thetches, and the Hogs the reſt; and thus he makes much Dung, by the Sheeps being confin'd all Night in the Yard, and keeps his Cattle in a thriving Condition beſides.

A Farmer feeds his Store-Sheep in his Meadow with Straw, in Winter, and folds them at the ſame Time.---ANOTHER Farmer, of my Acquaintance, when the Winter Weather

is open, feeds his Store-Sheep with one Sort of Straw or other, out of Racks that he ſets in a Fold on his Meadow-Ground, and thus folds it good Part of a Winter, without hurting his Sheep; for folding on Graſs-Ground does not hurt them like plow'd Land. I know a Farmer that gave his Store-Sheep Straw in a Rack, the beſt Part of *April*, 1738, becauſe the Seaſon was dry and cold.

Feeding Store-Sheep in Winter, in Vale Farm-Yards, by giving them Straw or Hay in Racks or Cribs.---In Vales in particular, they commonly make Cribs with two Boards, ten or twelve Inches broad, and ſix, or eight, or more long, with a long, croſs Stick, about two Foot, or eighteen Inches, raiſed higher than the Trough or Crib, to prevent the Sheeps getting into it: Others don't do this, but nail here and there ſhort croſs Bits of Sticks to prevent the Sheep getting into the Trough or Crib. Theſe Cribs, if uſed in Winter on dry Ground, may be made to ſerve for holding Straw or Hay in a Fold, and moved when the Fold is, or, as is moſt commonly done, kept in Farm-Yards, for feeding Store-Sheep to make Dung; and are rather better than Racks, becauſe the leſſer Sort of Sheep and Lambs cannot well reach to feed out of a Rack, when they can out of a Crib: Others will feed their Store-Sheep, in Winter, out of Racks, but take Care to drive a Stake at each contrary End of it, to keep it from falling; for ſome have, on Sheeps rubbing them, fell down and kill'd ſome. Such dry Winter-Food keeps Sheep in Heart, and prevents the Breed of the White, or Red-Water, and the Rot.

A Farmer weary of keeping large Sheep, becauſe they could not bite cloſe enough, to bring Meat enough off the Common, &c.---This great Farmer, falling into an Opinion, that the great pole Sheep would turn moſtly to his Profit, bought in a large Parcel of them; and having ſowed much Clover, to bait them in his incloſed Fields, he baited them in it every Day, after they had been kept on a Common, from the Morning that they were turned out of the Fold; but finding, that they carried off more Dung to the Common than they brought home, he ſoon grew weary of them, and kept a ſmaller Sort of Sheep, whoſe narrow Mouths, and thinner Lips, could bite cloſer than the larger Sort; beſides which, ſmaller Mutton, well fatted, ſells better to the Butcher than the larger Sort; for ſome are of Opinion that great Mutton will never be in that Vogue it has been, becauſe Gentry can afford to have freſh Joints the oftner of ſmaller Mutton;

ton; whereas, when large, they won't ſee it twice, and then there is a Waſte.

Of watering Sheep in Summer and Winter.---A SHEEP has the moſt porous Skin and Fleſh of all Beaſts whatſoever, and therefore is the leaſt ſubject to ſuffer by Want of Drink; yet it requires ſome Moiſture, if it lives on dry Meat. Sheep have been ſeen to run to drink Water in froſty Weather, when they eat Hay and Straw, and could not come at Graſs. One of my Neighbours loſt two of his Sheep in *January*, by their falling into a deep Hole, ſtriving to come at ſome Water that lay at the Bottom of it; for as he gave them Straw, they required Drink. It is true, that a Sheep will live if it eats dry Meat, and has no Water, but then it cannot thrive but ſuffer; yet too much Water is as bad, for if it drinks too much, it will be apt to corrupt its Blood, by breeding and lodging a Water in its Belly; and that, the Red-water, or Rot.---An old Farmer, that keeps about three hundred Store-Sheep, in very hot Weather, has had them drove every Day to Water.

A Sheep's Tooth drawn, for cauſing it to thrive the better.---THE 18th Day of *November*, 1747, I had a Wether Sheep that had two looſe Teeth before, one of them I drawed out with Pincers, becauſe it ſtood out from the reſt, which cauſed the Meat to ſlip on one Side; ſo that a Sheep that has no Teeth before, will, by its hard Gums, eat its Meat better than a Sheep that has ſuch looſe Teeth, that keep the Beaſt from Thriving, as the Caſe was with this; for after the Tooth was drawn, the Sheep fed and fatted better.

How a ſmall Farmer, by his pilfering Tricks, keeps a very large Flock of Sheep, and thereby enriches his own Ground, by damaging others.---THIS Farmer is a Chiltern Farmer, who occupies ſome of his own, and rents ſome of a Gentleman's Ground that lies contiguous to his; and by lying near a Common, he keeps two hundred Sheep, though he has but fifty Acres of incloſed Ground in all; however, he gets Money apace by the following Means.---There are Woods containing about two hundred Acres, ſituated next his Ground; about twenty of which, are all Spring, or Underwood, that he has no Manner of Right to meddle with; but he does, by taking the Opportunity, when moſt People are a-bed, to open a Gap, and let his Sheep feed Part of the Night amongſt the Woods; and when he thus

ſeeds them by Stealth, he places himſelf in a ſecret Part, where he may ſee a Paſſenger come by; and if he is ſuch an one that requires ſpeaking to, he gets out of his Cover, and aſks---Pray, did you ſee any Sheep in your Way? for my Sheep have broke out, and I don't know where they are.---A Skit contrived to take off the Suſpicion of a wilful Guilt, leſt this his ſly Villany ſhould come to the Knowledge of the Gentleman's Bailiff: By which wicked Contrivance, the greateſt Part of the Gentleman's Underwood is cropt in its infant Growth, to that Degree, that, at three Years Growth, they have been forced to cut it almoſt near ſmooth to the Ground, for cauſing it to grow up again in regular ſtrait Shoots and Poles. Now you muſt know, that this pilfering Farmer, by thus letting his Sheep clandeſtinely crop the Shoots of young Aſhes, Sallows, Hazels, and other Stems, in their infant Growth, makes a moſt nouriſhing, ſubſtantial Food for his Sheep, far beyond a ſhort Bite of flaſhy Graſs; and after his Sheep have thus got a Bellyful, he folds them directly; and as he begins folding them late at Night, or very early in the Morning, they lie in the Fold till ten or eleven o'Clock in the Morning, when other Sheep are on the Common: And when the Woodward, or Gentleman's Bailiff, comes to ſee the Damage, he aſks this Farmer, for one, how this Damage comes to be committed? To anſwer this, he ſays,---Your Hedges are broke down by Hunters, and Gaps made by poor People's ſtealing Wood out of the Hedges, which lets People's Sheep in to do this Damage, nor can he keep his own Sheep always out for theſe Reaſons.---Thus he deceives the Bailiff.---Again, as he rents ſome of the Gentleman's Lands next his Woods, he makes it his Buſineſs to pull and cut the Hedges for his own Firing, and then ſhews them to the Bailiff, ſaying,---he muſt have ſo many Loads of Buſhes, or other Wood, ſent him to mend them, or elſe the Hedges may lie down to the Ground for him. Thus he gets Food for his Sheep, and Wood for his Fire, and is thereby enabled to crop every Acre of his Ground every Year, with the Help of this his great Number of well-fed Sheep, when other Farmers, that go on honeſtly, are forced to make a Fallow of much of their Ground: And if this Farmer was not to take the Opportunity of feeding his Sheep in this pilfering Manner, he ought to have half his fifty Acres under Clover, or other artificial Graſs, and Turnips, to ſuſtain them.

The Benefit of feeding Store-Sheep with Hay, in April.---THIS is the common Practice of the beſt Chiltern Farmers, to give their Store-Sheep Hay every Night, in a Rack, in *April*, as they go on a Common in the Day-Time, becauſe this dry Meat is now more wanted than at any other Time of the Year, to prevent the new Spring-Shoot of Graſs bringing them under the Scour and Red-Water, which will have theſe ill Effects on Sheep the ſooner, if they have been feeding (as moſt of our Chiltern Sheep do) on the watery Turnip, Part of the foregoing Winter; and thus the poor Beaſts are brought under a double Cauſe of being infected with one, or both, of theſe fatal Maladies, which in ſome Years, more than others, ſweeps away many of a Farmer's Flock, even while they are well maintain'd in Turnips or Graſs; for theſe Diſtempers are incident to well-fed Sheep, as well as to poor-fed Sheep: Therefore, unleſs there be a counter, dry Feed given Sheep, at this Spring-Time of the Year, if the Red-water is not arrived to its full deſtructive Quantity, it will be increaſing, perhaps, till it kills them, though it may not be till the *Michaelmas* following.

Of a Gentleman that had ſuch a Value for Welch *Sheep, as to keep them amongſt Deer in his Park.*---THIS Gentleman's Park is ſituated twenty-five Miles from *London*, conſiſting of a gravelly, loamy, dry Soil, in Compaſs three Miles, and in which ſtand his Seat and Gardens, with convenient Ponds, *&c. &c.* here he keeps an hundred Head of Deer; yet his Taſte is not ſo attached to Veniſon, as to prefer it altogether beyond Mutton; therefore he pleaſes himſelf with keeping a Parcel of ſmall *Welch* Wether Sheep amongſt his Deer, where they feed on a very ſweet Graſs, and thus become the choiceſt and beſt of Mutton, ready for killing at all Times of the Year, as he keeps them feeding accordingly. And ſo curious a Gentleman is this, in his Huſbandry Affairs, that he neglects not to improve his Sward Ground; for where he thought the Graſs-Ground in his Park, was not fully furniſhed with Graſs, he endeavoured to do it in the cheapeſt, readieſt, and beſt Manner, by ſending to me, in 1746, for ſome of thoſe excellent Sorts of natural Graſs-Seeds, that by harrowing the Ground firſt, and by ſowing, and rolling them in at the Spring-Time of Year, and ſowing over them a particular Sort of fertile Manure, produce the ſweeteſt of Graſs the following Summer.

Of FOXES *killing* LAMBS, *and how to prevent it.*

A Fox killed a large Lamb, but could not carry it off.

AS there are ſeveral Woods about *Albury* in *Hertfordſhire*, they give much Shelter to Foxes; and here it was, that a Fox ſeized a large Lamb, thought to be ſeven Weeks old at leaſt, and after he had killed it, as he was lugging it to his Hole, he met with a Hedge that obſtructed his Paſſage; for as he endeavoured to get his dead Lamb through it, a Plaiſh in the ſame, ſo ſtopt the Lamb, that the Fox was forced to quit it and make off, leaving the Lamb here, which was found next Morning.

Foxes kill'd Lambs about Tring *and* Dagnal *in* Hertfordſhire, *and how they made uſe of a Remedy that prevented it afterwards.*----ABOUT *Tring* there are likewiſe ſeveral Woods which harbour Foxes, that have killed many Sucking Lambs, by biting them in the Neck, and ſucking their Blood, then toſs them over their Shoulders, and carry them off. So, about *Dagnal*, that lies near the Bottom of *Dunſtable-Downs*, there are ſeveral Holes, in a chalky Earth, that ſhelter Foxes, and give them an Opportunity to increaſe their Breed: Here it was that Farmer *Seers* loſt three Lambs, in a Week, by Foxes, becauſe he did nothing to prevent it: But as he has ſince learnt a Remedy, he has not loſt one Lamb; which Remedy is as follows, *viz.*

A Receipt how to ſecure Lambs in a Field from being hurt, or killed by Foxes.---DAUB your Lambs on each of their Shoulders, and on their Rump or Tail, with Tar, and it will ſurely prevent the Fox meddling with the leaſt of your Lambs.

Lambs kept in Coups, to protect them againſt Foxes.---AT *Kimpton*, a Village that lies about five Miles from *St. Albans*, there is a ſmall Farmer, who having ſeveral Fox Earths in one of his Fields, he is obliged to put each of his Lambs under a Coup while they are very young, and keep them here both Day and Night, except when he lets them out to ſuckle the Ewes, in order to protect them from Foxes: For here the Foxes are ſo bold, that they have been ſeen to croſs a Field in the Day-Time; and altho' they make

frequent

frequent Attempts to come at the Lamb, the Coup ſecures it; beſides which, as the Ewes are with the Lambs, Night and Day, in the Field, they are, in ſome Degree, a Safeguard to them, for as the Fox rounds the Coup, to come at the Lamb, the Ewe butts him off; thus the Lambs are kept coup'd till they are thought big enough to be out of the Fox's Danger.

Of preventing SHEEP *hoving and ſickening, while they feed in a Field, on Turnips or Rapes, for fattening them with the greateſt Expedition, and cauſing them to have a ſweeter Fleſh, than if they fed altogether on theſe Plants.*

TO illuſtrate the Knowledge and Practice of this, I ſhall do it by ſhewing the Loſs that attends the Want of it. It is a Loſs, and a very great one too, that ſometimes befals many Farmers who ſow Turnips or Rapes, for fattening Sheep, by loſing ſome while they are feeding and fattening on their Roots or Leaves, either by their hoving or ſickening; and this they are the more ſubject to, as they are frequently ſhifted into freſh Parcels of Turnips or Rapes, when their Leaves or Sprouts are in their frim Growth; but moſt of all, when they begin to throw out their ſeedling Shoots, which ſometimes happens in a mild Winter, in *December*, *January*, and *February*, and continues in *March* and *April*; and which are of ſuch dangerous Conſequence, that a Perſon may loſe moſt, or all of his Flock, in a few Hours Time.---Again, in very hard, froſty Winters, as the Caſe was in 1740, Thouſands of Acres of Turnips rotted, while Sheep were confined to feed in order to fat on them; for when the Froſt is ſo violent as to get quite through Turnips, and a ſudden Thaw ſucceeds, they generally rot; and as they rot, moſt of the large ones hold a corrupt, ſtinking, unwholſome Water, that breeds and brings on the lingering Red-water, or Rot; or, by a ſudden Sickneſs, kills many of them. And although ſome particular, great Farmer may oblige his Shepherd to riſe, and viſit his Flock in the Night, and this ſeveral Times, to ſee and prevent what Damage he can; yet this generally proves to little Purpoſe; whereas, my following Receipt, of feeding Sheep in a Crib, with a dry, and moſt wholſome Food, is

a thorough Prevention of theſe Evils, both Night and Day. But before I give the Receipt, I ſhall here give my Readers an Account of the Dimenſions of ſuch a Crib.

The Dimenſions of a particular Sheep-Crib, for holding a Mixture of dry, ſhort Meat, to feed and fat Sheep with, while they are kept in a Turnip, or Rape Field.

THIS Crib ſhould be made with one bottom Board, fourteen Inches wide, and ten Foot long; the two Side-Boards thirteen Inches wide, and ten Foot long; two Ridge Weather-Boards muſt be each ten Inches wide, and ten Foot long, that covers the Crib; the three upright, thick Boards muſt each be fourteen Inches wide, and three Foot high, that ſupports the two Ridge Weather-Boards, one at each End of the Crib, and one in the Middle; which three Boards are ſloped at each Side of their top Part, to nail the two Weather-Boards on. By this Make of a Crib, there are two Partitions, one for holding Corn, or Bran, or Chaff, or any other ſhort Meat; the other for holding Hay or Straw; which Crib is made a moveable one, by fixing a croſs, wooden, hollow Handle, in the Middle of the Outſide of each End: This being ready made, and ſo as many more as are wanted, the next Thing is to know how to furniſh ſuch a Crib with a proper Trough, or Crib-Meat, which is to be compoſed as follows, *viz.*

A Receipt how to make a Mixture of an excellent ſhort Crib-Meat, for keeping Sheep in Health, and fattening them with the greateſt Expedition, while they are feeding in a Turnip, or Rape Field.

IN the firſt Place, there muſt be a Chaff-Box, or Engine provided for cutting Chaff; and the Chaff muſt be made by cutting Clover Hay: The Clover being thus cut ready, it muſt be mix'd with an equal Part of Malt-Duſt; the paler and freſher the Duſt, the better it is: Now this Mixture of Chaff and Malt-Duſt, muſt be put into the Crib, in ſuch Quantities, and as often, as the Shepherd, in his

Prudence,

Prudence, ſhall think fit; and if he finds the Sheep get into the Crib, and ſtale and dung among the Meat, it's only nailing ſome Bits of Sticks acroſs the Crib, here and there, and it is prevented.

This excellent Food being luſcious in Taſte, and dry and hearty in Nature, tempts Sheep to feed greedily on it; and when they have ſo done, they as greedily eat the watery Turnip, or Rape; ſo that one becomes a Sort of Sauce, or Provocative, to feed on the other, and both, conſequently, tend to fatten them with the greateſt Expedition, far beyond the Feed of the Turnip, or Rape alone. But this is not all, for the Fleſh of Sheep, thus fatted, will eat much firmer, ſweeter, and be of a more wholeſome Nature, than when the Beaſt feeds ſolely on the crude Turnip, or Rape.

Again, when Sheep are fatting ſolely on Turnips, they are ſeldom leſs than twelve or ſixteen Weeks fatting on them; whereas, if this Crib, or Trough-Meat, is given them to feed on at Pleaſure, they'll fat in eight or nine Weeks, provided they are in fleſhy Order when firſt put in.

Beans, or Peaſe, or Oats, given with Bran, in a Crib, or Trough, are not only a dearer Food, but are more liable to be ſtole, as they are expoſed in diſtant Fields, by Night, as well as by Day; whereas, the Chaff and Malt-Duſt, is a much ſweeter, ſofter, and cheaper Food, will be more greedily eaten by the Sheep, and is ſafer from being ſtole.

The Chaff of Clover may be had at a trifling Expence; for a good Workman will cut, for a Penny, a double Buſhel; or if he is paid by the Day for cutting it, he may cut twenty-five double Buſhels in twelve Hours Time. I am here alſo to obſerve to my Reader, that the ſecond Crop of Clover may be better for this Purpoſe than the firſt, becauſe the ſecond Crop generally comes up finer and ſmaller in Stalk than the firſt Crop, and, conſequently, will cut the finer Chaff; and if the Clover is ſweetned by being a little mow-burn'd, it will add to its Goodneſs, by inviting the Sheep to eat it ſooner, and in the greater Quantity: And as to the Malt-Duſt, it is, like Clover, to be had in moſt Parts of *England*, at Sixpence the ſingle Buſhel, at deareſt; and in ſome Places it is cheaper.

In a common Market, where the Feed of ſuch Sheep is not known to a Buyer, a larger Price than ordinary is not to be expected for them; but where it is known that Sheep

are

are fatted in part with this ſweet and healthy Crib-Meat, a Butcher will be glad to give more for them, than if they were fed altogether on the raw Turnip, or Rape.

Thus I have here expoſed (as well as many others in my foregoing Accounts) a Secret that may be made of ineſtimable Value, both to the Vale Farmer, and to the Chiltern Farmer, for fatting Sheep in the quickeſt, cheapeſt, and ſweeteſt Manner, or where Sheep are to be kept all the Year, as Store-Sheep, for the Fold, or otherwiſe. This Winter Crib-Food may be made, not only to preſerve Sheep from Diſeaſes, but it will alſo help to keep them in Fleſh and Heart at a little Expence, and, conſequently, be the Means of increaſing their Fleeces of Wool againſt Sheering-Time; for the better any Sheep are kept, the more Wool they'll return, and of ſo fattening a Nature is this Malt-Duſt, that I have been informed an Ox has been Stall-fed, and fatted with only this and Hay, near *Selſoe* in *Bedfordſhire*.

CHAP. VII.

Of Sheering SHEEP.

How a Hertfordſhire *Farmer almoſt ſtarved his Sheep in Winter, and thereby greatly leſſened the Value of their Fleeces, which were ſtill made worſe by ſheering them in drizling, wet Weather.*

I CALL this a Farmer, but he is a Yeoman, as he is Owner of a fine incloſed Farm, worth eighty Pounds a Year, which gives him an advantageous Opportunity of ſowing ſeveral Fields with Turnip-Seed every Year, for a Winter Subſiſtence to his Sheep; and ſo he did this Time, but to no Purpoſe, for the Fly preſently eat them up on their appearing above Ground; ſo that having no Turnips to maintain his Sheep with in Winter, he was forced to truſt to their picking up, and living on what Graſs they could find in his Fields, and eating of Straw out of Racks; but ſo it happened, that by the frequent Froſts and Snows, there was little Field Meat to be had for his hundred Store-Sheep, and

and Straw alone afforded them but a poor Living; ſo that when his Flock came to be ſheered, on the 6th Day of *June*, 1745, the Fleeces were of ſuch little Value, that our common Wool-Buyer would bid nothing for them: And what added to their Damage, was, that rainy Weather happening for almoſt a Week together, juſt before their Sheep were ſhorn, their Owner had no more Wit than to ſheer them while the Fleeces were wettiſh, which ſurely brings on the Breed of the Moth in the Wool; nor is Wool from ſuch poor Sheep much better than that taken from off Murrain Skins, or thoſe Skins that come off Sheep which die a natural Death. For it was obſerved, that the great Poverty of theſe Sheep, and the rainy Seaſon that directly ſucceeded their Sheering, cauſed even that ſhort Wool, left on them at Sheering-Time, to peel off quickly after, when I was bid, at that Time, by the ſame Wool-Buyer, fifteen Shillings and Sixpence a Tod for my Wool, from Sheep much better kept and managed than his; for a good Winter's Keeping not only gives Sheep the better Fleeces of Wool, but likewiſe preſerves them in Health, when many of the poorer Sort die; as was this Yeoman's Caſe: For the very next Day after his Flock was ſheered, one of his Sheep was fetch'd home almoſt dead, and moſt of the reſt droop'd, and I ſuppoſe, died; which puts me in Mind of our common Country Saying---If a Beaſt won't pay keeping fat, it won't pay keeping lean.

Sheering Sheep early and late.---We Farmers, in *Hertfordſhire*, ſeldom ſheer our Sheep till near mid *June*, yet there are others that think this rather too late, becauſe the Weather is now generally ſo hot, as to give the Blow-Fly Strength and Opportunity to bite and blow, or lay its Eggs on the Skin of new-ſhorn Sheep, which ſometimes cauſes gauled ſore Places in the Pelt of this Beaſt, to its very great Torment, eſpecially when bad Workmen cut them in Sheering. To prevent this, ſome ſheer them the latter End of *May*, or Beginning of *June*, for refreſhing their Sheep the ſooner, and giving the next young Wool Time to grow thick againſt the ſultry hot Weather comes on, the better to hinder the Bite of the great Blow-Fly, and the ſcorching Heat of the Sun. Now there are two Extreams in this Management; one, that if the Sheep are ſhorn late, the Fly may hurt them; and if ſhorn too ſoon, the Weather may come coldiſh, chill the Blood of the Sheep, and damage it this

Way; which leads me to give an Account of ſeveral Preventatives that have been made uſe of for this Purpoſe.

To cure the Cut of a Sheep by the Sheers.---THIS Sort of Wounding ſometimes happens to Sheep, even by good Workmen, much more by bad ones, which if not done ſomething to for curing it, the Fly will ſoon lay its Eggs, and breed Maggots, as Examples have proved the Truth of, by the Death of Thouſands of Sheep, that have been eaten alive by theſe Inſects; therefore mix a little Flour, with ſome Yeaſt and Tar, and daub it over the wounded Part.

A ſecond Receipt to heal a Wound in the Skin of a Sheep.---IF the Wound is large, firſt put on it ſome Train-Oil, and then dip a Lock of Wool in melted Pitch, and apply it. This is an excellent Remedy for any large Wound in a Sheep's Body, or if even a Horn is broke off; and if laid on the Part very hot, will ſtick cloſe to it, keep off all Flies, and heal the Wound. But of this, ſee more at p. 133, for *June*, Vol. II. in my *Modern Huſbandman.*

Forty-one Sheep, and ten Lambs, ſheer'd by one Man in a Day.---A SMALL Farmer living near *Gaddeſden*, having but forty-one Sheep and ten Lambs in all, he had a clever Workman, who, for Eighteen-pence in Money, and Victuals and Drink, on the 24th Day of *June*, 1740, ſheer'd them all in one Day, and wound all the Wool beſides; which is what the Farmer coveted to have done, becauſe, as he had but few Sheep, and the Cuſtom of the Sheerers is, to carry away with them as much Wool as they can wind on their Sheers, he was afraid they would carry away more than he could ſpare, if he had employed ſeveral.

A Flock of Sheep had more Wool than ordinary on them, by their Bodies being rubb'd over with Butter-Milk as ſoon as ſhorn, &c.---IN *June*, 1745, I was inform'd of a Farmer that was Owner of a Flock of large, coarſe-wool'd Sheep, that proſper'd very well, partly becauſe that, as ſoon as they were ſhorn, he having a Tub of Butter-Milk ſtanding by him, rubb'd ſome over Part of each Sheep's Body; for you muſt know that Butter-Milk is what will cauſe Wool to grow apace on Sheep, and Hair on any Beaſt; or, if you have not Butter-Milk, mix only a little Milk with much Salt and Water, and rub this Liquor on your new-ſhorn Sheep, and I do aſſure you, if you manage this right, you will kill the Breed of Ticks, or Sheep-Lice, heal all Scabs and Wounds, prevent Sheep catching Cold, and cauſe their

Wool to grow thick and quick; for theſe Vermin are frequently ſo thick, both in Lambs and Sheep, that after they are ſhorn, the Jack-Daws, and other Field-Fowls, will get on their Backs and pick them off.

Of the Quantity of Sheeps Wools.---A WETHER-PUG, or two-tooth'd Sheep, which is one in the ſecond Year of its Age, that went amongſt a Flock of others, not being ſhorn the firſt Year as a Lamb, the next Year cut a Fleece of Wool weighing ſeven Pounds.---Another Sheep of the ſame Age, having been brought up the firſt Year as a Coſſart Lamb, that is to ſay, in and about a Houſe, and not being ſhorn till the ſecond Year, it cut a Fleece of Wool, weighing ten Pounds without waſhing, which is not more to be wondered at than the laſt; for as this Sheep was the firſt Year kept by one *John Johnſon*, a Bricklayer, in the Town of *Leighton* in *Bedfordſhire*, and went about the Streets when he would, it is to be ſuppoſed, that its Fleece carried in it ſuch a Quantity of Dirt, as muſt help to make this extraordinary Weight.----Our *Gaddeſden* Folding-Sheep commonly cut Fleeces, that, one with another, generally weigh two and three Pounds a-piece; but theſe don't come near up to the Weight of the *Oxfordſhire*, *Leiceſterſhire*, and *Lincolnſhire* great Pole Sheep, ſome of whoſe Fleeces weigh ſix or ſeven a Fleece.---There was a large Pole Ram, kept many Years by a Gentleman living at *Norchurch* Common in *Hertfordſhire*, that, in its Prime of Age, cut a Fleece weighing ten Pounds.

The Value of Sheeps Skins, *Sheeps Hoofs*, *Sheeps Horns*, &c.---ONE Mr. *Shilburne*, who formerly lived at *Ivinghoe*, and rented the Groves, which are Meadow Grounds of ſome of the richeſt Sort, then belonging to the Earl of *Bridgewater*, fed a Parcel of ſuch large Sheep, that he ſold forty of their Skins for fifteen Pounds, when Wool ſold well, which is ſeven Shillings and Sixpence a-piece, four of which were ſuppoſed to weigh a Tod. Some ſay, three Skins have weighed a Tod of twenty-eight Pounds, when others of the ſmalleſt *Engliſh* Sheep, that carry the fineſt, and ſhorteſt Wool on their Backs, have had four or five and twenty Fleeces to weigh a Tod: But beſides the Wool on Sheep, their bare Skin, or Pelt, is valuable, as it is the Cauſe of much Trading; by their employing the Felmonger, the Fulling-Miller, the Parchment-Maker, the Breeches-Maker, and ſeveral other Traders and Shopkeepers; and what has rendered the Pelt of a Sheep more than ordinary ſervice-

able is, that about thirty Years ago, an Art was found out of ſlitting it, by which the Quantity of ſuch Leather is not only increaſed, but ſerves to the great Conveniency of thoſe whoſe Occaſions require the Uſe of the thinneſt Leather: Yet, as the beſt Things are ſometimes put to bad Purpoſes, I have here thought it not amiſs to mention one in particular; and that is, that ſince the Splitting of a Sheep's Skin has been practiſed, it has given ſome villainous Fellows an Opportunity to cheat great Numbers of ignorant Perſons, who thinking they buy a good thick Buckſkin Pair of Breeches for, perhaps, ſixteen or more Shillings, buy only a whole Sheep's Skin, and half a one; for theſe being paſted together according to Art, they feel like one entire thick Skin, and thus they deceive the Buyer; for, as ſoon as ſuch Breeches are thoroughly wetted, the Skins part; or, if they are always kept dry, and don't part, they quickly wear out: So that a Pair of Breeches, made with one or two good Ram oiled Skins, of ſeven Shillings a Pair, is worth (very likely) two Pair of the other; however, as the Bite is now pretty well known, after, I ſuppoſe, Thouſands have been taken in, chiefly by knaviſh travelling Breeches-Sellers, the Impoſition, I hope, is almoſt at an End.---The next Thing I write of, are the Horns, and Hoofs, or Trotters, of this moſt uſeful Beaſt, and the Pitch-brand Marks and Taglocks of them; theſe are all of ſuch very great Service, that I think it may be juſtly ſaid, they are the beſt of Dreſſings, to Chiltern Farmers eſpecially. The Pitch-brand Marks are that Part of the Wool ſeparated from the Fleece as Offal, and are ſold by Wool-Buyers, to Farmers, for dreſſing their Land with them, after they have been chopt ſmall: The ſame of thoſe Locks that come off the hind Part of Sheep, which are forced to be cut off by the Farmer, when fouled by the Dung and Stale. But what is of greater Value than theſe to Farmers, are the Horns and Hoofs, or Trotters of Sheep; becauſe theſe being hard Subſtances, and retaining in them a great deal of Oil, they are of excellent Service for dreſſing Corn Land; and accordingly, ſome of our *Hertfordſhire* Farmers think they lay out their Money well, in ſending their Teams thirty Miles an End, to buy and fetch this fertilizing and durable Dreſſing; for, it is certain, that no Manure whatſoever, exceeds Hoofs and Horns, for enriching hungry, gravelly Land; and thoſe from Sheep, after they have been chopt ſmall, and ſowed and plowed into ſuch Earth, will

improve it for ſeven Years afterwards. I have known one only Waggon Load of theſe, after they have been thus prepared, dreſs a five-acre Field for a Crop of Barley; for that their oily Part, by rotting, with the Aſſiſtance of Rains, will diffuſe its Virtue to a conſiderable Diſtance. The next Part of a Sheep's Offal I have to write on, is the Sheep's Guts: Theſe are employed, before all other Guts, in the making of Sauſages; and to prepare them right, is the chiefeſt Part of the Art of Sauſage-making; for the inſide and outſide Part of the Guts muſt be taken off, and only the middle Skin, or Part, preſerved, to be filled with Pork and other Ingredients.

The Difference between the Wool of well-fed ſound Sheep, poor-fed ſound Sheep, and rotten Sheep.--THE Wool of ſound Sheep is well known to differ in Goodneſs according to the Nature of the Sheep, Situation of the Country, the Feed, and the Air, *&c.* of the Place. The middle-ſized, cloſe-wool'd, Weſtern Sheep, and ſo others of the *Engliſh* Sort that feed on Downs, Hills, and on open Commons, and open Fields, in the ſouthern Parts of *England* eſpecially, generally carry on them the fineſt and beſt of Wools: But let Sheep feed any where, if they have a well-fed, ſound Body at Sheering-Time, or when it is killed, the Wool of ſuch Sheep will work well alone, into Cloth; but when a Sheep's Body is rotten at Sheering-Time, or when it is killed, the Wool of ſuch Sheep is too weak to work into Cloth alone, becauſe it will break in working. Hence it is, that, when ſuch rotten Sheep are expoſed to Sale in a Market, a ſkilful Buyer, to prevent his being impoſed on, pulls off ſome of their Wool; and if he finds it part eaſier and freer than ordinary, he concludes ſuch a Sheep to be rotten: Wherefore, when wet Seaſons happen ſo as to bring great Numbers of Sheep under the Rot, the Wool of ſuch rotten Sheep is mix'd with the Wool of ſound Sheep, for making it endure working into Cloth; but then what muſt be the Condition of ſuch Cloth? why, it muſt deceive the Buyer and Wearer of it; for, as ſuch rotten Wool is held together and worked with ſound Wool, the Cloth muſt be better or worſe in Proportion to the Quantity of rotten Wool thus made uſe of. So the Wool of ſound Sheep is better or worſe, as their Feed is: The Wool of a well-fed, ſound Sheep, is much better than the Wool of half-ſtarv'd, poor, ſound Sheep; for the Wool of ſuch poor-kept Sheep is deemed little better than the Wool of a rotten Sheep,

as it is not very eaſy to know one from the other when they lie in Fleeces; becauſe the Wool of a poor Sheep, like that of a rotten Sheep, is of ſo very weak a Nature, that there may be little or no Difference between the one and the other. Thus there are Degrees of Goodneſs and Badneſs in the Wools of ſound and rotten Sheep, for making of Cloth. Again, as Sheep die more or leſs rotten, their Wool is put to thoſe Uſes, the Artiſt beſt knows will agree with it: For when Wool comes off a Sheep thoroughly rotten, or if a ſound Sheep dies naturally of ſome Diſeaſe, their Wools are generally made uſe of for Blankets, Bays, and Waddings, &c. which employ the coarſeſt of Wool.

Of the ſeveral Sorts of Wools contained in one good Fleece.---It is ſaid, there are nine Sorts of Wool contained in one good Fleece, which to make out, they ſay, that there are five Sorts for making Cloth, and four for Combings; a ſuperfine Wool, a head Wool, Downrights, Seconds, and Livery.---For Combings, ſuperfine Matching, fine, neat Combs, Say-Caſts, and long and ſhort Courſes.---That *Spaniſh* Wool, an Inch and a half, or two Inches long, will make Cloth alone, but then it's very dear; which cauſes our Clothiers to mix it with our fineſt *Engliſh* Wool, for making ſuperfine Cloth; ſo when they mix *Spaniſh* Wool with the Fur of the Beaver, it makes the Beaver Hat, as our Lamb-Wool does the Felt Hat, and Flannels, &c. Again, 'tis ſaid, that there is hardly any ſuch Thing as knowing, by the Sight of a Cloth, if it is made with a Mixture of ſound and rotten Wool: But this may be known, that, if Cloth is made in Part with rotten Sheeps Wool, the Wearer will ſoon find it will break and wear away quickly: Which leads me to obſerve, that the greateſt Security againſt buying any ſuch Cloth, made with rotten Sheeps, or other bad Wool, is to deal with a creditable Woollen-Draper, whoſe Word may be depended on for the Soundneſs and Goodneſs of Cloth; one of which Sort, who now lives in the very Heart of the City of *London*, I have a great deal of Reaſon to write in Praiſe of, as I have found him (as many others have done beſides me) by the Tranſaction of a momentous Concern, to be a Perſon of profound Juſtice and Honour.

How the Woollen Trade has decayed in a certain Town, ſituated within fifty Miles of London.----At this Town, within theſe thirty Years laſt paſt, they made great Quantities of narrow Woollen Cloths, the beſt of which were

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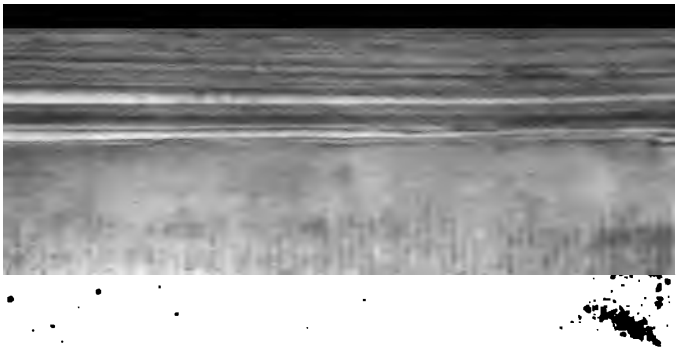
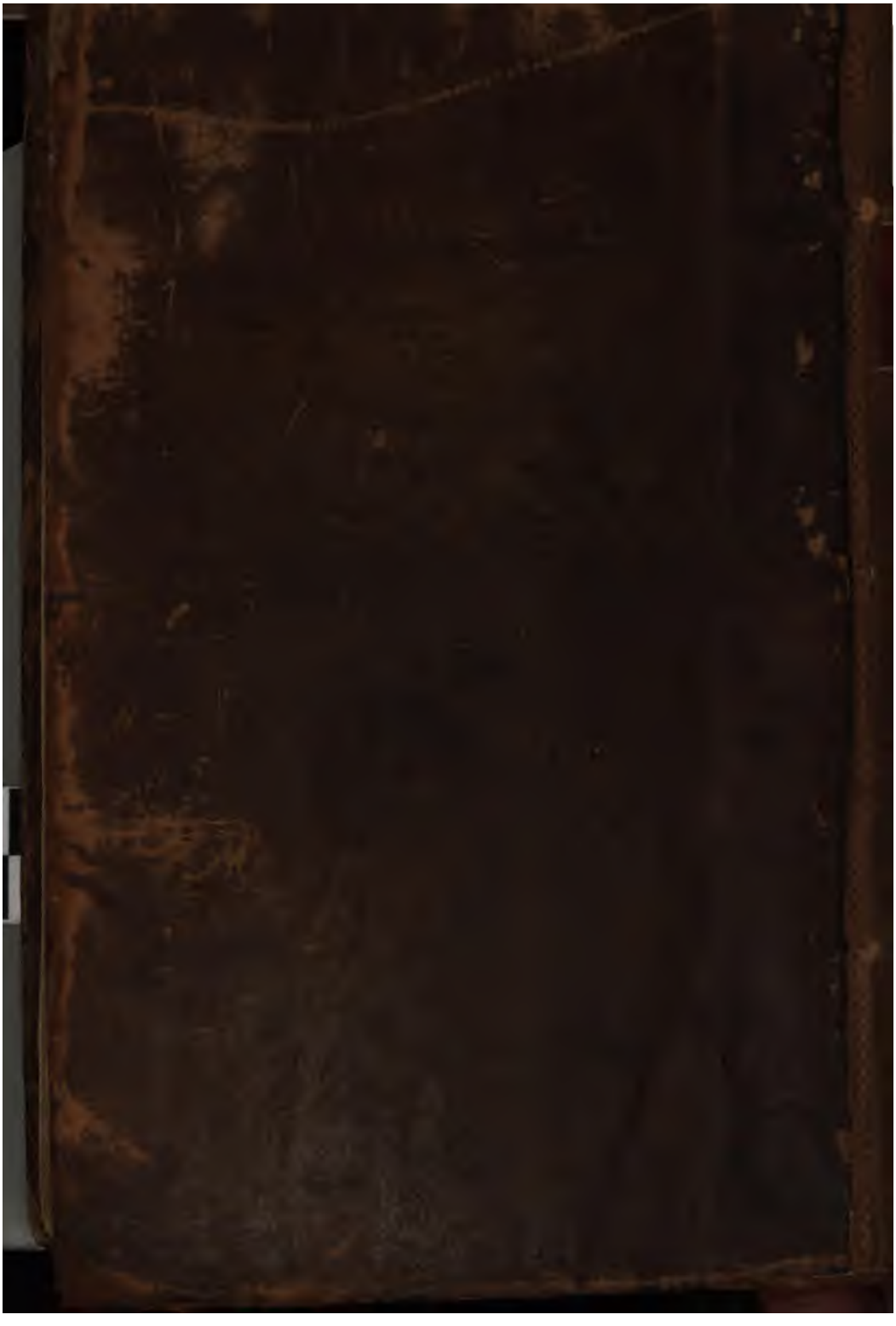
ſo fine, as to be ſold for ſeven Shillings a Yard; and it was for this Purpoſe, that Eighteen-pence a Pound has been given for Wool at *Way-hill* Fair, and then their Trade flouriſh'd accordingly; till, at laſt, it began to ſink, and, in Time, dwindled to almoſt an utter Decay, and this for the following Reaſons, as I have been informed.---In this Town, and Parts adjacent, their chief Buſineſs is Lace-Making, ſo that the Clothiers were forced to carry moſt of their Wool above twenty Miles an End, to have it done cheaper than what they could have it done for at home; which created them ſuch an Expence, as greatly diſcouraged their Proceedings. Secondly, thoſe Weavers and Spinners that did Work at home, would be paid ready Money every *Saturday* Night. Thirdly, the Wool in the adjacent Counties, is not ſo good as that of the Weſt. Fourthly, the Children in this Town, play away a Penny a-Day in the Wear of their Cloaths, and by Loſs of Time, when thoſe, in the Weſt, are made by their Parents to earn a Penny a-Day by Spinning, *&c.* Fifthly, the Workmen in the Weſt, are ſaid to be more ſkilful in their Buſineſs, and work cheaper than they do here; for that they take Part of their Pay out in Linen, Chandlery Ware, *&c.* All which proves that they cannot make their narrow Cloths, ſo cheap here, as they can in the Weſt, and North Parts of *England.*

The Deceits of Wool-Sellers expoſed, with an Acccount of the Penalty laid on ſuch by an Act of Parliament.---I DON'T ſuppoſe, that there is any one Commodity in *England*, that admits of ſo many vile Practices as Wool does, from the Sale of the Fleece, to the Sale of its numerous manufactured Wares. Some have mixed white Sand amongſt their Fleeces to make them weigh the more; and this in ſo artificial a Manner, that a young Wool-Buyer may be eaſily deceived. Others brand their Sheep with ſeveral large Pitch-Marks, partly to cauſe their Fleeces to weigh the heavier to the Buyer: Others, after they have ranged and placed their Fleeces of Wool, in an artful Manner, about a Room, will put a Tub of Water in the Middle of it, into which they lay one End of a Woollen Liſt, and the other End of it amongſt the Fleeces; by which the Water will be communicated to the Wool, like a Cloud, and ſo moiſten it that it ſhall weigh to the Seller's Wiſh; then, as they know ſuch Wool will ſuffer by keeping, they ſell it as faſt as they can. Theſe, and many other Deceits, are too often practiſed, as may appear by the following Accounts of them, *viz.*

Leiceſter, Feb. 20, 1744.

To all Growers of WOOL, WOOL-WINDERS, DEALERS, *and* SELLERS *of* WOOL, *in the ſeveral Counties of this Kingdom.*

WHEREAS, by an Act of Parliament, intituled, *An Act for the Winding of Wool*, paſſed in the 23d Year of King *Henry* VIII. it is enacted, That, from thenceforth, no manner of Perſon do wind, or cauſe to be wound, any Fleece of Wool, being not ſufficiently rivered or waſhed, nor wind, nor cauſe to be wound, with any Fleece, Clay, Lead, Stones, Sand, Tails, deceitful Locks, Cots, Cals, Combers, Lambs Wool, or any other Thing, whereby the Fleece may be the more weighty, to the Deceit and Loſs of the Buyer; upon Pain, the Seller of any ſuch deceitful Wool, forfeit, for every ſuch Fleece, Sixpence; the one Moiety to the King, and the other to the Finder and Prover of the ſaid Deceit, by Action of Debt, and ſo forth.

And whereas, of late, divers, and notorious Frauds and Abuſes, have been committed by the Sellers of Wool, contrary to the ſaid Statute, by employing Perſons to wind their Wools, who are ignorant and unſkilful, and not qualified to wind the ſame; and likewiſe (to the manifeſt Injury and Loſs of the Manufacturers of ſuch Wool) do frequently put into the Fleeces ſome of the Things abovementioned, though prohibited by the ſaid Statute: Therefore, in order to redreſs, and put a Stop, for the future, to ſuch illegal Practices, which are ſo injurious to the fair Trader, the ſeveral Manufacturers of Wool, reſiding in the Borough of *Leiceſter*, and Parts adjacent, have unanimouſly reſolved and agreed, ſtrictly to enforce, and put in Execution, every Law that ſhall reſpect the ſeveral Growers, Winders, Dealers, and Sellers of Wool, which ſhall be found to be ſo deceitfully wound as aforeſaid; and to proſecute every Perſon acting contrary to the Act of Parliament above-mentioned.

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